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THE TIMES

Refloating a lost piece of Tudor history, page 14

Pact with unions clears the way for completion of 'Times' purchase

Mr Rupert Murdoch yesterday completed negotiations with the unions on operating arrangements on "The Times", "The Sunday Times" and the three supplements, and his purchase of Times Newspapers Ltd is expected to be completed today. Although 563 full-time jobs are to go, union leaders said they were satisfied with the outcome. Mr Murdoch said: "I believe we now have a basis on which to go forward and ensure the continuance of these newspapers."

Mr Murdoch sees basis to ensure the future of group

By Paul Routledge and Donald Macintyre

Mr Rupert Murdoch's purchase of Times Newspapers Ltd is expected to be completed today after the conclusion of agreements with the newspaper unions on operating arrangements for the five titles.

A formal announcement to that effect was made last night at the end of three weeks of hard bargaining that yielded a reduction of 563 full-time jobs and an additional 100 shifts in a demanning exercise designed to put the company on to a sound financial footing.

The last hurdle to be cleared was the future production of the educational, higher education and literary supplements. They will be printed outside London, and six companies have been invited to tender for the contract.

Mr Murdoch announced the successful conclusion to his negotiations with the unions at a brief but hectic press conference in the Times Newspapers' board room in New Printing House Square. He said: "I believe we now have a basis on which to go forward and ensure the continuance of these newspapers". Paying tribute to the role played by The Times, The Sunday Times and the supplements, he added: "We expect to make them greater and better papers in the future".

Both sides made concessions in the talks, conducted against a three-week deadline set by the outgoing owners, Thomson British Holdings. Detailed agreement has yet to be reached with the unions on manning in the night machine area, but otherwise the two sides are fully in accord on wages, disputes procedure and staffing arrangements.

A new board for Times Newspapers Ltd has already been chosen. Mr Murdoch is chairman, and the managing director from March 1 will be Mr Gerald Long, a chief executive with Reuter's news agency. Mr John Collier and Mr William O'Neill become joint general managers. Mr Michael Ruda is director (advertising) and Mr Kenneth Beattie is director (circulation).

Mr William Rees-Mogg, editor of The Times, and Mr Harold Evans, editor of The Sunday Times, remain members of the board. All other existing directors appointed in the Thomson ownership period have resigned at their own request.

Printing union leaders last night said they were satisfied with the outcome, even though about 20 per cent of the 4,000-plus jobs at Times Newspapers were being surrendered under a voluntary redundancy scheme.

Mr Leslie Dixon, president of the National Graphical Association, whose members have accepted a shift to electronic photocomposition with more than a 40 per cent job saving, said: "It has been a hard battle, but it has led to a satisfactory conclusion. I am confident that the agreement we have made will provide for viable newspapers under the ownership of Mr Murdoch".

The agreement on new printing technology was the same one that had been on offer to the Thomson Organisation. "Murdoch had the common sense to accept it. They did not."

He hoped that the new agreements would make money for the titles "so that I can come and ask for some more". But Mr Murdoch was unequivocal in his response to a question about the risk of renewed industrial action in Gray's Inn Road. If that happened, "I will close the place down".

A new editor for The Times is to be appointed in about three weeks to succeed Mr Rees-Mogg, who had signified his intention to leave. There was a "long list" rather than a short one, Mr Murdoch said. The style of the paper would then be a matter for the new editor.

At a later meeting with fathers of the newspaper union chapels Mr Murdoch said that his News International company was taking over the company after it had made a loss of £15m last year. He declined to say how much he had paid for Times Newspapers, but promised that the figure would be revealed today, when legal arrangements for the transfer of ownership had been completed.

He said that people at Times Newspapers had had an unhappy time in recent years because of "the closure and one thing and another". There were bad relations and there were faults on both sides. The staff were "ready for a new change and a new beginning".

The editorial safeguards built into the takeover were referred to by Mr Kenneth Ashton, general secretary of the National Union of Journalists. The union would be watching to ensure that those safeguards were observed.

Although no official breakdown of the job losses was given yesterday it has been possible to build up an approximate picture of some departments' share of the cuts. They include unfilled vacancies as well as actual employees who will leave under the voluntary redundancy programme agreed jointly with the unions.

In The Times machine room, which had been one of the main stumbling blocks in talks until yesterday, the question whether the number of presses used nightly should be reduced from four to three has been deferred for further discussion. Although NGA negotiators had provisionally accepted the reduction by one press, the Natsopa machine chapel had resisted the move, together with the reduction of up to 21 jobs which it would imply.

NGA composing room staff will be reduced by 186 from 370 to allow for the introduction of new technology under a plan broadly similar to that already agreed with Times Newspapers before the recent negotiations, but during the coming year in-

Continued on page 2, Col 1



Mr Rupert Murdoch flanked by Mr William O'Neill (left, holding up the agreements) and Mr John Collier after the successful conclusion of yesterday's negotations.

Heavy casualties in Zimbabwe as rival troops clash

From Stephen Taylor
Bulawayo, Zimbabwe, Feb 12

Bulawayo became a war zone today in what has probably been the new nation's bloodiest day since independence.

Mr Robert Mugabe, the Prime Minister, ordered the air force and an army battalion into action as hundreds of armed former Zipra guerrillas converged on the city.

It was reported later, however, that no air strike had been made.

The Zipra troops apparently set out for Bulawayo from two directions—one from the Gwai river camp to the north and the other from a temporary military camp at the town of Essexvale to the south.

Certainly one and possibly both groups were stopped with heavy casualties. At least 70 are thought to have been killed in the fighting.

The Zipra troops are thought to have set out for Bulawayo in response to clashes between former Zipra and Zanla guerrillas that erupted in Entumbane last night.

Entumbane was the scene of heavy clashes in November between Zipra elements loyal to Mr Joshua Nkomo, the Minister without Portfolio, and Zanla guerrillas, who support Mr Mugabe. More than 50 people died in the clashes.

The fighting in Entumbane last night started at about 9 pm when former Zipra guerrillas were said to have opened fire with heavy weapons including rockets, on a neighbouring camp in the township housing Zanla men.

A company—comprising former Rhodesian security troops who have been based in the township as a peace-keeping force—then came under attack and were besieged until this morning when their position was relieved.

After the initial clashes at Entumbane a movement of Zipra forces started what, Mr Mugabe told Parliament today, had "very sinister undertones".

Early today three personnel carriers and two other vehicles set out containing Zipra men from a temporary military camp at Essexvale, which is about 40 miles south of Bulawayo. When only five miles south of the city, they ran into the former Rhodesian unit, which opened fire with rockets.

Later this morning an even larger Zipra group, comprising hundreds of men, set out in 13 vehicles from their Gwai camp, about 150 miles to the north-west.

They stopped at Kenmaur, where a Zipra High Command representative was killed after urging them to turn back. The military column then proceeded.

It appears that at this stage Mr Mugabe decided to send in the Airforce. Meanwhile, fighting raged on at Entumbane. Members of 1—1 Battalion, wearing their old Rhodesian insignia, encircled the township, blocking the roads with military vehicles and poured mortar fire into what they believed to be Zipra positions.

Zanla elements had taken to the surrounding bush at about noon. During a lull in the fighting, civilians streamed out of Entumbane carrying a few easily-packed possessions.

One man said he was leaving because he believed that the fighting would start again tonight.

A white captain of 1—1 Battalion, leaning on his rifle, said he and his men were attempting to ensure that no Zipra men escaped the cordon.

It is quiet now, but the fighting could start again at any time, the captain said. About 200 men of the former security force battalion, which ironically seems to be the unit that Mr Mugabe feels he can most trust, were deployed inside Entumbane.

Although Mr Mugabe told Parliament this afternoon that an air strike would be made on the 13-vehicle armed Zipra column, it was later reported that the column included two army vehicles and it appeared that the Air Force had not gone ahead with the air strike.

The armed convoy was later reported to have turned back to Gwai river and the planned air strike had been called off.

A conservative death toll from the violence is 70. Vehicles bringing bodies to a local hospital were being turned away and emergency arrangements.

Bulawayo was a ghost town today. Residents responded to a government call broadcast on radio to stay at home and not use telephones. Shops were closed and streets were deserted.

The violence around Zimbabwe's second city has not involved members of integrated army battalions, but men who were awaiting absorption into the National Army.

Coronet and gate for police siege tie motif

By Stewart Tendler
Crime Reporter

A special tie design produced by London policemen to mark their involvement in the Iranian Embassy siege last year is being recorded with the College of Arms. Ties to mark special, long or difficult cases are not unusual but few if any of the previous designs have reached the noble corridors of the college.

The ties are designed to sum up the essential ingredients or unusual elements of a case. In London they have been designed to mark cases as varied as the hunt for Lord Lucan, the Balcombe Street siege and the escape from prison of George Blake, the Soviet spy.

The latest tie is designed with three sets of stripes. Dark blue represents the Metropolitan Police and light blue denotes the Special Air Service Regiment, which rescued the hostages. In between is a grey stripe meant to signify, with perhaps a hint of humour, the civil servants at the Home Office responsible for anti-terrorism measures.

It was the emblem on the tie that brought in the College of Arms experts. The difficulty before Mr John Dellow, deputy assistant commissioner in charge of police operations at the siege, was how to sum up the embassy and the siege in a simple motif.

The embassy is in Princes Gate, South Kensington. The siege lasted six days. The resulting design is a prince's coronet above a six-bar gate.

But the coronet is no common imitation, as might be found, for example, on a trade mark. There are two official coronet designs. One is used by the Prince of Wales and the second by the other royal princes.

It is the latter, by special permission of Buckingham Palace, which has been incorporated in the design with the agreement of the college.

Yesterday a spokesman for the Garter King of Arms at the college confirmed that "a particular emblem was being entered here", although Mr Dellow said he had yet to hear officially.

He said the ties would go to policemen closely involved in the siege. They are normally paid for by the officers themselves and Mr Dellow said he thought a "fairly substantial number" would be produced.

Full Cabinet economic policy review sought

By Fred Emery
Political Editor

A review by the full Cabinet of the Government's economic policy is being sought in the four weeks remaining before the Budget by some of the ministers who are becoming most restive over the worsening effects of the recession.

That was learnt yesterday as reaction was formed in Whitehall and Westminster to the speech by Mr Francis Pym, Leader of the Commons, on Wednesday, admitting that worsening circumstances were forcing the Government into adjustments of tactics and timing.

Such a Cabinet meeting would be highly unusual and it is not clear whether the Prime Minister would agree to it. The Cabinet has discussed the broad implications of economic policy on only two or three occasions in its two years of office. The period before the Budget is traditionally seen by Conservatives as the preserve of the Chancellor of the Exchequer.

The main concern of ministers who are not making the Government's central economic decisions is that the Chancellor must do as much as possible for industry and employment in the Budget.

It only partially came through in Mr Pym's speech, but there is pressure growing for giving industry relief on energy prices and especially on lower interest rates.

The concern has sharpened because, as Mr Pym hinted in his speech, the recession is such that many ministers do not believe that the economy can recover much this year; a couple even doubt severely whether there will much respite in 1982 either.

Sir Geoffrey Howe's original phrase last November that the recession was "bottoming out" subsequently adopted by Mrs Thatcher and Mr John Nott, then Secretary of State for Trade, is now seen as premature by many ministers.

Mr Pym said nothing of it. The anxiety that it may now rebound on those in the Government who said so is evident.

Mr Michael Foot, Leader of the Opposition, tackled Mrs Thatcher on Mr Pym's speech yesterday, but the Prime Minister predictably chose only to pick out the bits in it supporting her strategy, saying there was "excellent stuff" in it.

Mr Foot is known to believe, however, that Mr Pym has signalled that, whatever Mrs Thatcher may protest, the lady is indeed for turning.

The Labour leader, while welcoming the Government's new willingness to help industry to survive, would maintain that there is all the difference between a government doing so with conviction and one being dragged into it.

EEC urged to stop all steel aid

Britain will propose a strict timetable for the elimination of state subsidies to the European steel industry at a ministerial meeting in Brussels next month. Ministers are seeking the removal of all operating subsidies by the end of 1984. The Government will argue that its plans for the United Kingdom steel industry, both public and private, are in line with EEC Commission objectives. Whitehall is confident that its proposals will commend themselves to the Bonn Government and Germany's steel industry in particular. Page 17

Poles asked for rest from strikes

The new Polish Prime Minister has asked Solidarity, the independant trade union grouping, for a three-month respite from strikes. He said the Government would use the time to engage in the broadest possible dialogue and would set up a permanent commission to hold talks with the union. Page 8

Corsica blasted by bomb attacks

Forty-six bomb blasts erupted across Corsica after a Paris court sentenced a group of militants to prison sentences. No one was hurt in the explosions but extensive damage was caused to public buildings, shops, and the property of people from the French mainland Page 6

Greek royalists welcome King

King Constantine returned to Greece for the first time in 13 years to attend the funeral of his mother, Queen Frederika. Enthusiastic royalists seized the coffin during the burial service and carried the former King on their shoulders chanting anti-government slogans Page 6

Party heals rift: Herr Willy Brandt, chairman of West Germany's Social Democratic Party (SPD) emphasized: "The party will not split". It stood loyally and firmly behind the Government of Herr Helmut Schmidt, the Chancellor, he said after the party executive had produced a five-point declaration designed to end an internal crisis Page 6

Surrealists to be auctioned

The finest group of Surrealist paintings ever likely to be sold at one tie will be offered at auction in London at the end of March. The 28 paintings were collected by Mr Edward James, the friend and patron of the Surrealists Page 4

Talbot workers to fight closure

Workers at the Talbot car plant at Linwood, Scotland, are to mount a campaign to try to reverse the decision to close the factory Page 4

Washington: Moscow takes unusual step of publishing confidential letter to Mr Haig 8

China: Four-page Special Report looks at the world's most populous country after the trial of Mao's widow

Classified advertisements: Appointments, page 23; Car buyers' guide, 24; Personal, 23, 24, 26; Property, 23

Unofficial action likely in militant coalfields

By Paul Routledge
Labour Editor

Unofficial strikes are expected to break out in the militant coalfields next week as the miners square up for a full-scale conflict with the Government over pit closures. Serious political overtones have already emerged.

In an unprecedented show of unity, the executive of the National Union of Mineworkers yesterday voted 25 to nil for a hardline policy that will take the industry into a national strike if the Cabinet refuses to grant huge subsidies in talks over the next few days.

Shortly after that decision was taken, more than 500 pitmen attending a rally in Euston, London, were told by Mr Arthur Scargill, left-wing leader of the Yorkshire miners, that a strike against the coal board plan to axe up to 30,000 jobs could "bring about the conditions for an early general election and get rid of this Tory Government once and for all".

His point was taken up by Mr Michael McGahey, Communist leader of the Scottish miners, who said: "I want the Tories to be the anvil and I will be a good blacksmith". He asked union activists to go out and forge local links with steelworkers and railwaymen to make a disruptive reality of the "triple alliance" recently set up to form a common defence for jobs in those industries.

The mass meeting took substantially farther forward the policy laid down by the miners' leaders, but the line taken yesterday by moderates and militants alike suggests that the industry is drifting rapidly towards a national stoppage. The union executive expressed itself "totally opposed" to coal board plans to shut between 20 and 50 pits, and spoke of the danger that industrial action will start in some areas.

"If any attempt is made to put these plans into effect either in individual areas or collectively, the national executive committee will recommend through a ballot vote that the members take national strike action", the policy resolution continued.

The union executive has been called into emergency session next Thursday to discuss the union's next move, and in the meantime urgent talks are being sought with energy, trade and employment ministers. Mr Joseph Gormley, the union president, said he "would not mind" seeing Mrs Thatcher.

In those discussions the miners will argue that imports of coal, now running at about eight million tonnes a year, should be halted, and that operating subsidies of the kind paid out by the governments of other EEC countries but being phased out here under the Coal Industry Act, 1980, should be paid.

"If no satisfactory response is made to our representations to the ministers, the national executive will ballot its members on strike action", the resolution concluded. There would then be talks with rail and steel workers' unions.

Mr Gormley predicted that if it goes to a strike vote there will be a four-to-one majority for industrial action, adding: "We would not go on strike if we thought we could lose".

But left-wing coalfield leaders are already making preparations for unofficial strikes that will be encouraged in the militant coalfields of Yorkshire, South Wales, Scotland, Kent and Derbyshire.

Pithead meetings designed to get strike votes are expected in South Wales on Monday.

The National Coal Board yesterday confirmed that local joint meetings are to start immediately in all coalfields. Under the coal board's four-point programme to bring output into line with reduced demand, 10 million tonnes of capacity would be taken out at a possible cost of 30,000 jobs.

There is some firmly based expectation among moderate miners' leaders that the Cabinet will seek to defuse the crisis by conceding more generous cash incentives for pitmen to leave the industry

12 new charges of murder against lorry driver

From Our Correspondent
Leeds

Peter Sutcliffe, who is accused of murdering Miss Jacqueline Hill, a student aged 20, in Leeds, will face a further 12 charges of murder, it was announced yesterday.

Mr Sutcliffe, aged 35, a lorry driver, will also be charged with seven counts of attempted murder. The committal hearing will be next Friday, before magistrates in Dewsbury, West Yorkshire.

Details of the new charges were not released. They were announced in court by Mr the Director of Public Prosecutions.

Reporting restrictions were not lifted, but after the hearing the prosecution said there was no objection to the number of charges being published.

Mr Sutcliffe, of Garden Lane, Heaton, Bradford, was not in court. In his absence he was remanded in custody to await committal.

He has appeared in court only once since his arrest in the first week of January.

He is so far charged with murdering Miss Hill last November and with stealing two car number plates valued at

Commons suspends Mr Paisley

By Hugh Noyes
Parliamentary Correspondent, Westminster

In a flurry of charge and counter-charge, Mr Ian Paisley, Democratic Unionist MP for Antrim North, was named yesterday by the Speaker of the House of Commons for refusing to withdraw a charge implying that Mr Humphrey Atkins, Secretary of State for Northern Ireland, was a liar.

The motion that Mr Paisley be suspended from the services of the House was carried without a division when it was found that only one MP, a fellow Democratic Unionist, Mr Peter Robinson, had offered himself as a teller for those against the removal of the reverend and honourable gentleman.

The Speaker then instructed Mr Paisley to leave the Chamber. Under the rules of the House, Mr Paisley will remain suspended for five sitting days and will be allowed to resume his seat next Thursday.

After Mr Paisley's shenanigans in Ulster over the past week it was clear that trouble was brewing from the moment that he and Mr Robinson eased themselves into their seats at the start of Northern Ireland questions yesterday.

Eruptions of volcanic proportions are not unusual from the member for Antrim North, and with Mr Gerard Fitt, Independent Socialist MP for Belfast West, in prominent position on the other side of the House, the stage was all set for an early shoot-out.

But not many MPs, even Mr Paisley, can have expected such rapid developments. Mr Atkins had scarcely got started on the first question when Mr Paisley heaved himself to his feet, asking the Secretary of State whether he would care to confirm or deny that the army patrol which was supposed to be observing Tynan Abbey on the night of the murder of Sir Norman Stronge and his son James, was being wined and dined at a well known republican house in the area.

Would he also confirm or deny that the helicopter that came to the help of the RUC ran out of fuel and had to return to base and what action was being taken against the officer responsible for the patrol for not being in position on the night of that terrible incident?

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Defeat for Government on 'tapping'

By Bill Johnstone

The Government failed yesterday to prevent a Labour-sponsored clause on telephone tapping from being inserted in the new Telecommunications Bill being reviewed by a Commons committee.

Mr John Gorst, Conservative MP for Barnet, Hendon North, supported seven Labour members and one Liberal who voted for the clause, which led to a defeat for the Government by one vote.

Mr Gorst remained unconvinced about government policy on telephone tapping, despite the personal intervention of Mr William Whitelaw, the Home Secretary, on Wednesday in an attempt to dissuade him.

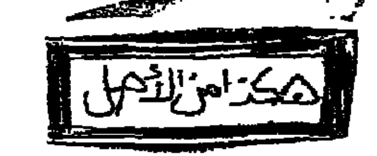
Mr Kenneth Baker, Minister for Industry and Information Technology, who is steering the Bill through the Commons, declared the Government's clear opposition to the insertion of the clause.

The clause was moved by Mr John McWilliam, Labour MP for Blaydon. It lays down the precise criteria to be used by the Home Secretary when issuing a warrant authorizing telephone tapping either by the police, the customs and excise or the security forces.

In response to questions about press reports suggesting telephone tapping at the Canadian High Commission in London, Mr Baker would neither confirm nor deny their validity.

Mr Gorst made clear that he was unhappy about instances of telephone tapping for state security being discussed on the floor of the House of Commons. He intends to table an amendment to prevent that happening.

Ministers' concern: Ministers were last night expressing serious concern at the Labour-sponsored clause, and are expected to introduce an amendment when the Bill returns to the Commons at the report stage.



HOME NEWS

Mr Murdoch becomes the most powerful figure in national press since Lord Northcliffe

By Dan van der Vat

By triumphantly clearing the last obstacle yesterday to ownership of *The Times* and its four sister-publications, Mr Rupert Murdoch became the most powerful figure in Fleet Street since Lord Northcliffe, founder of the British popular press, who also owned *The Times*.

The Australian with the soft voice and the hard-bitten reputation aroused two distinct reactions when it became known three weeks ago that he had been chosen by Thomson British Holdings as the new proprietor, provided he could reach agreement with the unions and adhere to the Thomson timetable.

Three printing union general secretaries wrote to Mr Michael Foot, the Leader of the Opposition, on the day after the announcement, urging him not to press the Government for a reference of the proposed takeover to the Monopolies and Mergers Commission and making it unmistakably clear that they approved of the bid.

They are Mr William Keys, of Sogat and chairman of the TUC printing industry committee, Mr Joe Wade, of the NGA, the principal craft union, and Mr Owen O'Brien, of Natsopa, the sprawling "all trades" union representing half the employees. With friends like that, did Mr Murdoch need to worry about opposition?

He did. Many journalists on the most distinguished papers in Britain, conscious of a world reputation for quality and independence, made no secret of their fears that Mr Murdoch would lower standards and interfere, because his previous history as a newspaper proprietor seemed to make that inevitable.

Not a few outsiders, including *many influential figures in Parliament*, expressed unease that *The Times* and *The Sunday Times* looked set to join *The Sun* and the *News of the World* in the same stable.

The national leaders of the printing unions supported Mr Murdoch despite his reputation as a tough bargainer because they felt they knew where they stood with him even if it meant loss of jobs. The chapels (office branches) were less keen because it was their jobs that would go, but fell into line when the negotiator who had started by asking for the moon settled for distinctly less.

The unprecedented guarantees about editorial independence and integrity given by Mr Murdoch on January 22 and twice reinforced since did a great deal to assuage, if not entirely to extinguish, scepticism among journalists and parliamentarians.

Rupert Murdoch, aged 49, is the grandson of a Scottish minister of religion who migrated to Australia in the last century. His father was Sir Keith Murdoch, a distinguished journalist and newspaper owner whose business was broken up for death duties in 1952, leaving his only son and three daughters a controlling interest in just one paper, the shaky *Adelaide News*.

Mr Murdoch came from a privileged background and went from Geelong Grammar School, the best known in Australia, to Oxford, where he got a third-class degree in philosophy, politics and economics and a reputation as a left-winger with dash, wealth and popularity.

Early signs of what was to come during his time at Oxford included a successful campaign to raise advertising revenue for the student weekly, *Cherwell*, and a run for holding office in the Labour Club for canvassing for election.

He learned journalism on a provincial newspaper and later the *Daily Express* in London and the *News Chronicle*, before returning to Australia to start his real career as a newspaper executive and proprietor.

Using the family company, Cruden Investments, as a base for expansion in the tough and boisterous world of the Australian press, he acquired a Sunday newspaper in Perth in 1956 at the age of 24 and four years later moved on to try his luck in Australia's "big city", Sydney.

His best known approach to a takeover of a newspaper soon became established, involving moving sharply and unhesitatingly down market to raise circulation.

His early adventures in Australia and his subsequent record on a wider stage encompassing Britain and America earned him a reputation as a ruthless entrepreneur, successful rather more often than not, and as a pioneer of female nudity, epitomized by the daily dose of bare bosoms in *The Sun*.

But inside the man soon christened "the Dirty Digger" by *Private Eye* there appears always to have been a quality newspaper proprietor trying to get out. He founded *The Australian*, the country's only nationwide newspaper, in the 1960s, and kept it going through many vicissitudes, including a journalists' strike over alleged editorial interference in 1975. It remains Australia's most serious paper.

In 1976 he tried hard to get control of *The Observer* but was beaten by Atlantic Richfield. In the United States he owns the *New York Magazine*, a glossy weekly respected for informed comment, as well as the *Village Voice*, the down-market *Star* weekly tabloid and two dailies in Texas.

Mr Murdoch was only 38 when he made his sensational arrival in *Fleet Street* by acquiring control of the *News of the World* in 1969. Shortly afterwards he acquired the moribund *Sun*, successor of the *Daily Herald*, cheaply from the *Daily Mirror* group, and took it down market to the top of the circulation table within a few years.

The British operation, News International, headed by the largest circulating daily and Sunday newspapers in the country and supported by a chain of *regional papers*, magazines, a 12 per cent holding in London Weekend Television and printing, paper and transport interests, *is now the most important* revenue earner in the Murdoch empire.

His largest acquisition in the United States, where *he started* what became News America Inc in 1973, is the New York *Post*, a once dull evening paper which he transformed in the familiar down-market manner, once again leaving the opposition breathless.

Firmly entrenched in a highly and uniquely profitable position at the bottom end of the British national press, Mr Murdoch now bestrides Fleet Street by acquiring control of the top end of the market at the same time *in a way unknown* since Northcliffe.

He has been accused of open interference in editorial matters *in both Australia and America* and of laying down the political line to be pursued by his papers; of ruthlessness in his acquisition of control over Australian television stations and even an airline.

If there is one thing Mr Murdoch's controversial career has shown it is that he is keenly aware of markets. *The Times* has only one market and *The Sunday Times* dominates its own sector. They each have the most demanding readerships *in Britain, and it is a well* known tenet of Mr Murdoch's philosophy to give the readers what they want.

Three-month pay freeze in deal

Continued from page 1

stead of over three years as previously agreed:

As a result of the removal of *the supplements*, accepted by Natsopa yesterday, 55 shifts will end, about half of them worked by employees of *The Times* and the other *half* by casual workers who come in for only one day.

In *The Sunday Times* natsopa machine chapel, according to union sources, seven shifts will end among the 101 worked by part-time employees on cleaning and other duties after the production run. The 450-strong casual production staff and the *57 shifts for preparatory* work will apparently remain intact.

In Sogat departments, union officials said yesterday that about 40 to 50 out of nearly 500 employees in a number of different departments would go, together with 40 single shifts required for supplement production.

In Natsopa Revisors, Ink and Roller makers and Auxiliaries chapels, it is understood that just under 100 jobs out of a total of almost 500 will go. In the *800-member clerical chapels* of *The Times* and *The Sunday Times* a total of 130 jobs will go, of which 110 are unfilled vacancies.

As new technology is introduced the total of 57 members of the Society of Lithographic Artists, Designers, Engravers and Process Workers will be reduced to 47, and the complement of 103 electricians will be reduced by about 10 per cent.

Under agreements signed with the National Union of Journalists, the *complement of 279 on The Times* will be reduced by 25, including four unfilled vacancies, and that of 54 on the supplements by five. A further 15 of 170 full-time journalists on *The Sunday Times* will also go.

News International negotiators appear to have had varying success in achieving the reductions they were *seeking*. According to the unions they had opened by asking for 220 job losses in clerical areas, cuts of between 25 and 35 per cent in machine areas, and up to 120 fewer in Sogat departments.

The unions have accepted a three-month pay freeze from the end of their current agreements *in October*, *other than* the National Union of Journalists, which retains its current settlement date of December 31, thus coming into line with printing workers.

In addition they have signed a new procedure for the avoidance of disputes

Leading article, page 15

The new proprietor of 'The Times' and his predecessors

Transaction completed in two vital phases

By a Staff Reporter

Mr Rupert Murdoch became the new proprietor of Times Newspapers in two phases. The first lasted precisely three calendar months from October 22 *last*, when Thomson British Holdings announced their decision to sell or close the five papers by next month. The second lasted precisely three weeks, from their announcement on January 22 that Mr Murdoch had until yesterday to get union agreement.

The key to the successful campaign by Thomson to sell *all five titles to a single buyer* as a going concern will undoubtedly be seen in retrospect as their uncompromising adherence to a calendar of their own devising in defiance of scepticism in the City, incredulity among the trade unions, fear among the journalists and pressure for an official inquiry in Parliament.

It may also be concluded that the most successful aspect of the Thomson association with Times Newspapers after 14 years of disappointment and disruption was the way they ended it.

Thomsons decided to sell after a year of closure in 1978-79 failed to resolve mounting and disastrous labour relations difficulties over disputes procedure, manning levels and the ever elusive new technology.

A journalists' strike at *The Times* last August and catastrophic disruptions in the printing of *The Sunday Times* led to the announcement on October 22, *with dealings* in Thomson shares suspended, that the Canadian-based multinational company would cease to support the papers in March.

The merchant bankers, S. G. Warburg, were called in to conduct the hoped-for sale of all the titles to a single bidder. The bank drew up an "information memorandum" and distributed it to potential purchasers in three weeks. Interested parties were given until December 31 to show themselves.

As the first deadline approached, speculation was rife but facts were sparse. December 31 ceased to be a deadline and became a guideline.

At the turn of the year only Mr Robert Maxwell, of Pergamon Press, and Journalists of *The Times* Ltd, a staff consortium, were known to have come forward. Yet with the new year just a week old, Lord Thomson of Fleet and his British executives were publicly confident that a single buyer for Times Newspapers would emerge before the end of January.

By *the middle of* the month a short list of three contenders, Mr Murdoch's News International, Lord Rothermere's Associated Newspapers and Mr Roland "Tiny" Rowland's Lonrho, had emerged.

Speculation soon focused on Mr Murdoch, the only candidate to concede his interest in public in a guarded interview with BBC radio.

On January 22 Mr Murdoch, flanked by Thomson executives, told a press conference in a London hotel that he had been given three weeks to reach agreement with seven trade *unions and their 54 chapels* (office branches) at Times Newspapers on issues that had eluded Thomsons for three years.

If he succeeded the papers were his. If not, "I'll be gone". If there was reference to the Monopolies and Mergers Commission, with its minimum requirement for an inquiry of eight weeks, "all bets are off".

The Thomson timetable was still dominant. Mr Murdoch was given three weeks to do a deal with the unions instead of the two originally envisaged by Thomsons, *not* because he wanted more time but only because he had emerged as front runner (but not the highest bidder) one week earlier than expected, despite last-minute legal delays.

If the talks that led to the provisional sale agreement were intense, the 21 days of negotiations with the unions were positively frentic. Mr Murdoch met *the general secretaries* immediately after the January 22 press conference and left in his silver Mercedes Benz for his first tour of the buildings in Gray's Inn Road the same evening.

The next morning, his chief union negotiators, Mr John Collier and Mr William O'Neill, joined him in Gray's Inn Road and talks began in earnest, *morning noon and night*, seven days a week. They set out to obtain a strict disputes procedure to stop unofficial strikes, *sweeping reductions in* manning to reduce costs, and the introduction of new technology to open the way to lasting profitability.

The engineers and the electricians were the first to reach agreement, as was to be expected, given their ancillary maintenance roles. That left the four printing unions and the journalists.

The sticking point for the latter was the question of editorial independence; disputes procedure and new technology posed no problems and *demanning eventually proved* acceptable because it was made entirely voluntary.

The Sunday Times journalists threatened to go to court to try to force a monopolies commission inquiry but withdrew when further guarantees of editorial independence were given by Mr Murdoch.

On January 27 the Secretary *of State for Trade*, Mr John Biffen, announced that he would waive a reference to the commission on the ground that the papers were not economically viable. There were objections on the government and opposition benches, but the decision was endorsed by a majority of 42, with a three-line whip imposed on the Conservatives.

The talks with the printing unions entered their final phase, with the principal craft union, the *National Graphical Association*, and the numerically largest, the National Society of Operative Printers, Graphical and Media Personnel, representing half the present work force of 4,200, showing the most reservations, notably on manning cuts but also on disputes procedure.

Would the NGA accept compulsory cuts when new technology came, and could Natsopa persuade its chapels to agree? A nicely timed series of concessions on Monday by Mr Murdoch did the trick, and one of the most extraordinary labour negotiations in the history of Fleet Street, if not of Britain, ended yesterday in a flurry of signatures, [illegible] smiles.

'Hard battle': Mr Leslie Dixon, president of the National Graphical Association, said last night: "No one likes to lose staff, but I am confident that the agreement will provide for a good future" (the Press Association reports).

The unions agreed to Mr Murdoch's demand that the three supplements should be printed outside London.

Mr Dixon said: "I am sorry the supplements are *leaving* London, but there have been concessions on both sides.

The negotiations have been very fair, and we have reached a common understanding. I believe it is the best deal we could have had."

Mr James Pointing, national officer of Sogat, said: "We have had some very difficult negotiations, and we are very disappointed that the supplements will be leaving London. But, under the circumstances, I think we have reached a very sensible agreement."



John Walter I, 1785-1812.



John Walter II, 1812-1847.



John Walter III, 1847-1894.



Arthur Fraser Walter, 1894-1908.

Lord Northcliffe, 1908-1922.



Major J. J. Astor, MP, later Lord Astor of Hever, 1922-1962.



Second Lord Astor of Hever, 1962-66.

Lord Thomson of Fleet, 1967-1976.

Second Lord Thomson, 1976-1981.

End of great dream says Lord Thomson

From Michael Leapman
New York, Feb 12

Lord Thomson of Fleet, the retiring owner of *The Times* and *The Sunday Times*, spoke with deep emotion today of his grief at the final severance of his family's connexion with the papers.

"I have to be sad", he said over the telephone from his office in Toronto. "I shall never have a relationship with newspapers of that quality and reputation again. I feel very sad that we failed in our basic aim to make the papers successful. I can not help but have that feeling."

He is particularly upset because the sale represents the defeat of his father's dearest wish to be the person who restored *The Times* to its earlier glory and fortune.

"He had a great dream of securing the future of that wonderful newspaper and leaving the paper prosperous. I had that hope too. We kept trying but we could not do it. We have the feeling that we failed", Lord Thomson said.

"Our consolation is that we kept custody of them for 14 years. In that respect we have made our contribution. But in the end we could not make a go of it and the smartest thing to do was to get rid of them.

"We did not act perfectly. There were faults. I can not help but look back with regret. It is a sadness to know that we are no longer associated with these wonderful newspapers."

A second consolation for Lord Thomson is his belief that in Mr Rupert Murdoch he has found a buyer who can succeed where he has not.

"We have committed the papers to the hands of someone who has the ability to make them work", he said. "Rupert Murdoch is a good newspaperman and businessman. I know that he has the desire to show the world that he can produce good newspapers as well as sensational ones.

"If anyone could do it he has the record and the financial resources to do it. I hope he can. I hope he does. He has said he will not change the basic character of the papers and I am sure he has noble objectives."

Lord Thomson believes that as far as his own company is concerned the end of the "financial and administrative drain" involved in owning the papers will be beneficial. He felt that the fact of his owning large oil, travel and other outside interests was "both a strength and weakness" in that it led people to think that publishing losses could be sustained indefinitely.

"We have taken our lumps", he concluded. "But now we have saved it. I have some satisfaction in that respect. I really think you are going to feel it was a good move in the end."

Editor "delighted": Mr Harold Evans, editor of *The Sunday Times*, said he was "delighted" that the agreement had finally been reached (the Press Association reports). "It has ended a period of uncertainty and I feel we will now see *The Sunday Times* progress rapidly.

Mr Evans said he planned to remain as editor of *The Sunday Times*.

Mr William Rees-Mogg described the agreement as "quite remarkable".

"I am very pleased that everything has gone through. It is very good news for *The Times*."

He said he planned to resign as editor "within a very short time" to allow Mr Murdoch to appoint a successor.

New chief appointed at Reuters

The Reuter Board has appointed Mr Glen Renfrew to the post of managing director and chief executive of Reuters in succession to Mr Gerald Long, who is leaving the company at his own request.

Mr Renfrew's appointment will take effect on March 1, 1981. On the same date Mr Long will become managing director of Times Newspapers Ltd.

Mr Renfrew, who is aged 52, is at present a joint deputy *managing director of Reuters* and manager, Reuters North America, stationed in New York.

Mr Long, aged 57, has been chief executive of Reuters since February, 1963, until 1973 with the title of general manager, and since that date that of managing director. Mr Long has spent more than 32 years with Reuters, and Mr Renfrew 28 years.

Sir Denis Hamilton, chairman *of Reuters, in a message to the* staff today said: "Mr Long's two decades as chief executive of Reuters have been of historic *importance* to the company. He has maintained and developed the traditional highest standards of integrity and reporting of Reuters as the largest world news service.

"He has now, after a period of major investment and technical innovation, built it up into *the greatest international* service of media news, financial and business information.

"He leaves us with the *regrets of each member of the* board but also with all our gratitude, together with our best wishes for success in his new and immensely responsible post in journalism."

Mr Paisley named and suspended

Continued from page 1

Mr Atkins was in no mood to confirm or deny any such things. He never gave details to the House about security forces' operations, he said, and he could not understand why Mr Paisley thought it was in the interests of anybody to make charges like that.

"It's a cover-up," Mr Paisley *bellowed*. Squawks and shouts of shock, horror and dismay erupted on all sides and Mr Fitt, *never one to let a good opportunity slip by, leapt to his* feet to tell the Speaker "Mr Paisley has just called Mr Atkins a liar."

At that point, of course, Mr Paisley had done no such thing but rapidly sensing that here was a good chance for instant martyrdom, he at once rose to his feet shouting: "So he is".

"Did the honourable gentleman make that statement?" the Speaker asked. "I made that statement, for it is true", Mr Paisley said, like a latter-day George Washington.

"He is a liar", Mr Robinson squeaked, almost dwarf-like *beside his massive colleague*.

As MPs waited in delightful suspense for the thunderbolt to strike Antrim North, Mr Paisley added that he had no intention of withdrawing the truth. "He is telling the truth, he is telling the truth. The Secretary of State is a liar", Mr Robinson yelled.

At that point the Speaker *decided he had heard enough*. "I name the Rev Ian Paisley for gross discourtesy to the *chair. I call upon the minister* to move the appropriate motion."

Mr Paisley shot out of his *seat and then shot back again* and Mr Michael Jopling, Government Chief Whip, moved the motion for suspension. There was a joyous shout of "Aye" from what seemed like every other MP in the House, with the only "No" cries coming from the two Democratic Unionists.

As a division requires two tellers on either side and only Mr Robinson took up the gauntlet on behalf of those against the motion, the vote was called off. *Mr Paisley* was then given his marching orders by the Speaker, bowed politely to the chair and stalked off into the outer darkness.

Our Political Reporter writes: Outside the carriage gates that *lead into New Palace Yard*, Mr Paisley said he had put a very serious allegation "and you will have to note that it was not denied". *He spoke outside* Parliament because he was not allowed to be interviewed until he had been escorted from the precincts by the police.

Mr Paisley said he thought he had been very *harshly* dealt with because he had intended to withdraw from the House and he had made that clear. "*I was in the House when* Bernadette Devlin made a scene and tore the hair of Reggie Maudling and she was never named or suspended, because she was a republican.

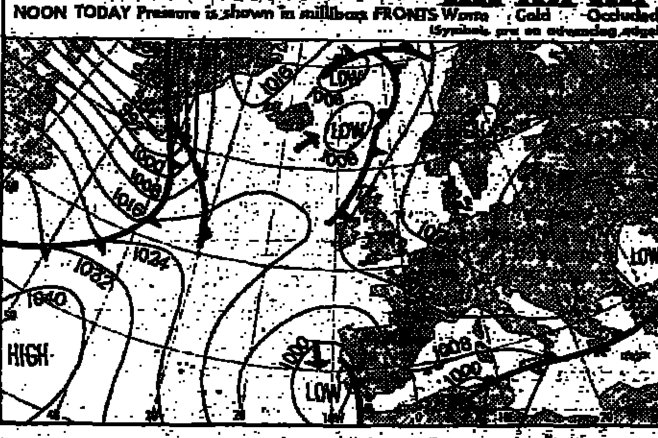
"I happen to be a Protestant and a Unionist. It would seem to me that there is not going to be fair play even for public representatives who take an anti-Government line on the Haughey talks."

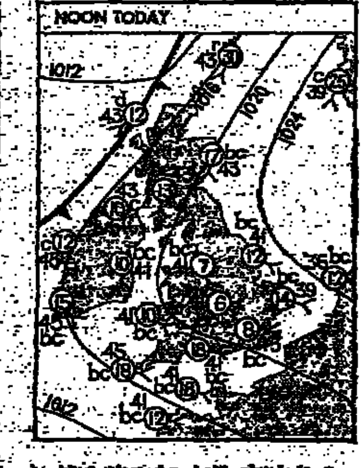
Repeating the charge he made in the Commons, Mr Paisley said: "*I think Protestants* now along the border can have no faith in the Army when those army men who were sent out to patrol the border actually went to a Republican house and wined and dined while the Stronges, whom they were supposed to be observing and protecting, were murdered."

Army denial: The Army last *night categorically* denied Mr Paisley's allegations.

Spirit of Carson, page 4
Parliamentary report, page 10
Letter, page 15

Weather forecast and recordings





Today

Sun rises: 7.19 am | Sun sets: 5.12 pm
Moon sets: 2.48 am | Moon rises: 11.55 am

Full Moon: February 18.

Lighting up: 5.42 pm to 6.47 am.

High water: London Bridge, 8.2 am, 6.3m; 8.54 pm, 6.3m. Avonmouth, 12.59 am, 10.3m; 1.48 pm, 10.3m; Dover, 5.16 am, 5.7m; 6.3 pm, 5.5m. Hull, 12.11 am, 6.7m; 1.6 pm, 6.2m. Liverpool, 5.42 am, 7.7m; 6.18 pm, 7.8m.
1ft=0.3048m 1m=3.2808ft.

A ridge of high pressure will build across central Britain, bringing a cold SE airstream across S areas.

Forecasts for 6 am to midnight:

London, SE, Central S England, East Anglia, Midlands (E), Channel Islands: Dry, sunny periods. Frost early and late; wind E, moderate; max temp 3° to 5°C (37° to 41°F).

Midlands (W), NW, Central N and NE England, Borders, Edinburgh and Dundee, Glasgow: Dry, bright periods, frost early and late and some fog; wind S or SE, light or moderate; max temp 3° to 5°C.

SW England, S and N Wales: Mainly dry, bright periods, perhaps isolated showers in W; wind E or SE, light or moderate; max temp 5° to 7°C (41° to 45°F).

Lake District, Isle of Man, SW Scotland, Argyll, N Ireland: Rather cloudy, some bright intervals, occasional rain or drizzle; wind S, light or moderate; max temp 6° to 8°C (43° to 46°F).

Aberdeen, Central Highlands, Moray Firth: Mainly dry, bright periods, wind S, light or moderate; max temp 6° to 8°C (43° to 46°F).

NE, NW Scotland, Orkney, Shetland: Rather cloudy, rain or drizzle at times; wind S, moderate or fresh; max temp 5° to 7°C (41° to 45°F).

Outlook for tomorrow and Sunday: Mostly dry and cold with some sunshine but widespread frost and patchy fog at night.

Sea passages: S North Sea, Straits of Dover, English Channel (E): Wind E, moderate or fresh; sea slight or moderate.

St George's Channel, Irish Sea: Wind SE, moderate to fair; sea slight.

b—blue sky; bc—half clouded; c—cloudy; o—overcast; f—fog; d—drizzle; h—hail; m—mist; r—rain; s—snow; th—thunderstorm; p—showers; pr—periodical rain with snow. Wind speed in mph.

Yesterday

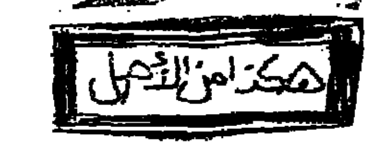
London: Temp: max 6 am to 6 pm, 7°C (45°F); min 6 pm to 6 am, 2°C (36°F). Humidity, 6 pm, 56 per cent. Rain, 24 hr to 6 pm, nil. Sun, 24 hr to 6 pm, 0.1 hr. Bar mean sea level, 6 pm, 1,017.1 millibars, rising.
1,000 millibars=29.53in.

WEATHER REPORTS YESTERDAY MIDDAY: c, cloud; d, drizzle; f, fair; r, rain; s, sun; sn, snow.

		C	F			C	F			C	F			C	F
Akrotiri	c	6	43	Genova	s	1	34	Majorca	f	10	50	Reykjavik	sn	0	32
Algiers	f	13	55	Gibraltar	c	15	59	Malaga	c	11	52	Rome	c	12	54
Amsterdm	f	3	37	Guernsey	f	5	41	Malta	f	13	55	S F'sco	fog	13	55
Athens	s	16	61	Helsinki	f	-6	21	Miami	r	21	70	Stockholm	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Barbados	f	28	82	Innsbruck	sn	0	32	Montreal	s	-14	7	Tel Aviv	c	16	61
Barcelona	c	7	45	Istanbul	f	15	59	Moscow	sn	-5	23	Toronto	f	-14	7
Berlin	c	0	32	Jersey	f	4	39	Munich	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	Vancouver	f	2	36
Bermuda	f	23	72	L Palmas	r	16	61	Naples	f	11	52	Venice	[illegible]	[illegible]	43
Biarritz	s	7	45	Lisbon	s	8	46	New York	s	-4	25	Vienna	s	-2	28
Brussels	s	0	31	London	c	6	43	Nice	c	10	50	Warsaw	f	-1	30
Chicago	c	-14	7	Luxembourg	f	-1	30	Oslo	[illegible]	[illegible]	27	Washington	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Copenhgn	f	-1	30	Madrid	c	2	36	Paris	s	5	41	Zurich	f	-1	30
Funchal	s	15	59												

Overseas selling prices
Australia, $2; Austria Sch 20; Bahrain BD 0.650; Belgium B Frs 35; Canaries Pes 100; Cyprus 450 mils; Denmark Dkr 5.50; Dubai Dir 7.00; Finland Mkk 5; France Frs 4.50; Germany Dm 3.00; Greece Dr 80; Holland Gl 2.50; Iran IR [illegible]; Iraq ID 0.500; Irish Republic 30p; Italy L 1100; Jordan JD 0.425; Kuwait KD 0.450; Lebanon Lf 4.00; Luxembourg Lf 35; Madeira Esc 50; Malta 30c; Morocco Dir 5.00; Norway Kr 6.00; Oman OR 0.700; Pakistan Rps 10; Portugal Esc 50; Qatar QR 7.50; Saudi Arabia SR 3.25; Singapore $1.50; Spain Pes 100; Sweden Skr 5.00; Switzerland S Frs 3.00; Syria LS 5.60; Tunisia Din .450; US $1.50; UAE Dir 7.00; Yugoslavia Din 40.

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HOME NEWS

Government may improve on 6% pay offer to public service workers to head off threat of disruption

By David Felton
Labour Reporter

The Government is believed to be moving towards improving its 6 per cent pay offer to nearly 900,000 public service workers in the face of industrial action threatened next month by white collar civil servants.

Ministers met yesterday to discuss the challenge being planned against the Government's pay policy for the public sector and it was reliably reported that they agreed that an offer of about 7 or 7½ per cent could be made to union leaders.

Ministers are believed to be anxious that a new offer should not be tabled unless there were strong indications from the unions that the increase would be acceptable.

There has been some scepticism among Civil Service union officials that a small increase would be sufficient to cancel the planned campaign of industrial action, which is due to start with a national one-day strike next month, followed by a series of selective strikes designed to affect the Government's ability to collect revenues.

In addition to the 6 per cent being offered to the 530,000 white collar civil servants a similar increase has been put to 250,000 hospital ancillary workers and 30,000 ambulance men.

Further indications of the willingness of civil servants to embark on an unprecedent, concerted campaign of action came yesterday from the traditionally moderate Inland Revenue Staff Federation, whose members voted by eight to one in favour of strikes.

Meetings at 42 centres around the country recorded 24,993 votes in favour of action, with 3,152 against. The union's total membership is about 60,000 but it was emphasized by union officials that more than 8,000 members were unable to attend meetings because of the need to keep a skeleton service operating.

The votes among 1,000 staff at the tax computer centres at Cumbernauld, near Glasgow, and Shipley, near Bradford, which would play a crucial role in the campaign of guerrilla action, recorded a higher majority for action than the national vote.

Mr Anthony Christopher, the federation's general secretary, said last night: "This is a result which should concern the Government. We have not incited it. There is very deep concern among members over the Government's refusal to pulish pay research for 1981 and its denial of free arbitration".

At a mass meeting in London yesterday about 300 members of the Institution of Professional Civil Servants, the third largest Civil Service union, which has a reputation for moderation, voted by a large majority to support the campaign of industrial action if the Government did not improve the 6 per cent offer.

Mr William McCall, the institution's general secretary, told the meeting: "It is important that the Government, Parliament and the community should understand that the whole of the Civil Service is completely disgusted at the way this Government is scrapping agreement after agreement and the shabby and shoddy way it is reflecting on the importance of the work that is done."

Union negotiators yesterday alsomet officials of the Civil Service Department to press their claim for a reduction in the working week to bring civil servants into line with the private sector.

Mr Peter Jones, secretary of the Council of Civil Service Unions, said the meeting was "disgraceful" and that officials had not taken nto account the unions' arguments and had refused to entertan the claim.

Union officials are expecting to have a further meeting on pay with Lord Soames, Lord President of the Council and and Minister responsible for the Civil Service, early next week, when they hope the Government will increase the 6 per cent offer. The unions have said that without an improvement industrial action is inevitable.

Government 'winning cash cuts battle'

By John Young
Planning Reporter

The Government was winning the battle with local authorities over public expenditure cuts, Mr Michael Heseltine, Secretary of State for the Environment, said yesterday.

In an interview with *The Times* he expressed little sympathy with those councils which complained that they had faithfully followed Government directives and were being unfairly treated. "In most cases they just have not done their homework properly.

"You would be surprised how often they cannot provide even the most elementary facts and figures. What they imagine to be a proper cost analysis is *usually no more than an* attempt to defend their present levels of consumption."

Nobody deplored more than he the need for drastic cuts in capital investment. But they were quicker and easier to achieve than reductions in current spending.

"You will not find me defending capital cuts. But I would say that there was no choice. The faster we can get current spending down, the faster we will be able to restore our capital investment programmes."

Housing bore the brunt of the burden, which made it vital to spend what resources were available on conserving and renovating the existing stock.

His principal motive for encouraging the sale of council houses was to reverse the polarization of society between home owners and council tenants. That was far more important than any savings that might accrue to taxpayers and ratepayers.

In recent years owners had seen an enormous rise in the equity value of their investments, while tenant had gained nothing at all. The effect had been to create "two nations", a situation he found indefensible.

Concerted opposition to Dublin summit aimed at hardline 'loyalists'

Spirit of Carson invoked in Paisley campaign

From David Nicholson-Lord
Belfast

The Rev Ian Paisley tonight embarks on a journey back in time: It will start at an Orange Order hall in Omagh, co Tyrone, and end outside Stormont Castle next month.

Mr Paisley, in honour of Sir Edward (later Lord) Carson, perhaps the most venerated figure in unionism, calls it the Carson trail.

To those who view Ulster politics as a series of repeating patterns the past week, beginning with the midnight "show of strength" on an Antrim hillside, has provided ample confirmation. The sense of history feeding off itself has been increased by the continuing analysis on television of the roots of Ulster's troubles.

According to critics, that is what gave Mr Paisley and his Democratic Unionist Party the theme for their campaign of *opposition* to the Dublin summit in December and the joint studies between Britain and the Irish Republic set in motion by it. Mr Paisley, they say, has been watching too much television.

Mr Paisley replies that his 11 rallies planned for the next six weeks, at which "loyalists" will be asked to sign a covenant of opposition to the Dublin "conspiracy", are indeed designed to replicate those held by Carson in the autumn of 1912 as a prelude to the anti-home rule covenant. Carson, like Mr Paisley on Monday, signed his covenant at Belfast City Hall.

The Democratic Unionist Party's position is summed up by its advertisement in a Belfast newspaper yesterday portraying the Dublin summit as a scorpion, with a "united Ireland" as the sting in its tail. Government assurances that there will be no sellout are treated with contempt.

The response of most critics to Mr Paisley's headline-making is that he has seized the pretext of an ambiguous Dublin communiqué as the launching pad for his local government election campaign. The elections are due in May.

Mr Paisley, the argument runs, wishes to dissociate himself from his involvement in last year's failed devolution talks. He also seeks to recover some of the ground he lost at the end of the year by incautious remarks about referendums and an independent Ulster, and to project himself once more in the words of the advertisement as "Ulster's elected leader".

This strategy of appealing to hardline loyalism has led to some of Mr Paisley's Official Unionist opponents who feel themselves outflanked echoing fears of the Dublin "threat". It has been criticized, too, on the grounds that it is likely to heighten sectarian tension at a time when the H-block issue looms once again.

Mr Paisley also places him at risk by inviting too m[...] historical comparisons. Ca[...] though like Mr Paisley a ski[...] publicist and mass orator, [...] born in Dublin and was [...] and foremost an Irish Unio[...] to whom partition becam[...] political necessity.

"I base my whole ac[...] upon the love of my cou[...] Ireland", he declared at [...] first of his covenant rallie[...] September, 1912.

On that occasion, in E[...] killen, not, es tonight, [...] Omagh, Carson made a triu[...] ant entry into the town i[...] open carriage, flanked b[...] mounted escort of 240 far[...] and accompanied by an e[...] ated 40,000 marchers.

Mr Paisley, whose arriv[...] Omagh is likely to be a s[...] what smaller-scale affair, [...] said he hopes to c[...] "hundreds of thousands [...] signatures. Perhaps wisel[...] has set himself no target.

Letters, pa[...]

Surrealist paintings expected to fetch £1m

By Geraldine Norman
Sale Room Correspondent

Christie's are to offer at auction on March 30, 28 Surrealist paintings from the collection of Edward James, all dating from between 1933 and 1939, the high point of the movement.

It is the finest group of Surrealist paintings ever likely to come simultaneously to auction; Christie's are estimating their value, perhaps conservatively, at £1m. The nevt day Sotheby's are to sell six more James pictures.

If it were not for the perennial streak of meanness in British government arts policy, the paintings would now be hanging, with some 250 others collected by Mr James, in an exotic, specially consrutcted dome-shaped museum in the heart of Sussex. It would be the greatest Surrealist art gallery in the world.

In 1964 Mr James, a millionaire at the age of five, whose whole life pattern has followed the Surrealist credo, handed over his 6,000-acre estate at West Dean, West Sussex, to a charitable trust, the Edward James Foundation, with the art collection he had in England.

In 1976 he conceived the idea of building an art gallery on the West Dean estate to house his collection of paintings, some 220 by then belonging to the foundation and 80 or so from his private collection. The cost of constructing his dome was estimated at £200,000.

He asked the British Government for a grant of £35,000 a year towards the cost of running it. Mr Hugh Jenkins, Labour Minister for the Arts at the time, turned him down.

The James foundation runs a college in the old Wyatt mansion at West Dean, teaching the restoration of antiques and craft skills. At the same time it administers the estate, which includes nine tenant farms, a village and a smaller Lutyens house converted into a Surrealist dream house by James in the 1930s. While strong on assets, it is short on income and the trustees decided some years ago to disperse all but a central core of the collection of paintings.

Much has already been sold, sometimes privately, sometimes through Sotheby's. Dali's famous "Metamorphosis of Narcissus" was sold privately to the Tate 18 months ago.

The Chrisrie's auction will contain six works from the foundation, with 22 works from James's private collection. He was always generous with his possessions, and most of those works are familiar to the public from their loan to the main Surrealist exhibitions of recent years, most notably Dali's "Le Sommeil", in which a melting head is seen propped up by crutches in an eerie coastal landscape.

Particularly fascinating is a series of small panels painted by Dali for the dining room of James's London home in Wimpole Street, which he lent to Magritte and Dali in successive years in the mid-1930s. The paintings were let into the panelling of the room, with a hidden lighting mechanism; when the panelling that hid them was rolled back, the lights came on and the luminous little fantasies were revealed.

They are a brilliant series; several beach scenes and distant views across sand, one an arrangement of prancing horses and riders, which, if one half closes the eyes, can be s[...] form a woman's head.

The sale also includes [...] telephone.

James was the frien[...] patron of the Surrealist [...] buying their works an[...] laborating in "events", s[...] the 1936 lecture to be gi[...] Dali in a diving sui[...] helmet: unfortunately th[...] was inaudible inside the [...] and nearly suffocated.



Above: René Magritte's "L'Echelle du Feu", which is dated 1938-39.
Below: Salvador Dali's "Le Sommeil", which he painted in 1937.



Linwood car workers vote for campaign to save plant

From Ronald Faux
Glasgow

Workers at the Talbot car plant at Linwood, near Glasgow, are to fight the decision by Peugeot SA, the French owners, to close down the operation next June, throwing 4,800 out of work.

A mass meeting yesterday voted overwhelmingly to start a public campaign to get the decision reversed. Shop stewards and normal working would continue for the time being, but industrial action was not ruled out.

Mr James Livingstone, convener of shop stewards, said that only a few workers had voted against. The action would aim at protecting Linwood and the future of the car industry in Scotland, some other parts of which were in the same economic position as Linwood.

"We will continue our fight. It will be our intention to use the major unions if necessary, and industrial action as well at the end of the day. But at this stage we are not proposing industrial action, and we have asked our members to work normally to ensure the company cannot accuse the unions or the workforce of being disruptive."

A trade union group representing all workers and staff at the plant is to meet representatives of Strathclyde Regional Council today, and on Sunday talks on tactics will take place with the Scottish TUC and shop and machinery in the plants in Coventry.

Workers at Linwood said yesterday that men in the engineering section of the plant had been found to be working on plans to transfer production of the Sunbeam car, the company's most popular British made model, to another plant. It was feared that the Peugeot-Citroën group was seeking to move equipment from the body-shop and machinery in in the gearbox section

Shop stewards ordered the work to stop. Mr Livingstone said that industrial action would be used if there was any attempt to move machinery from Linwood to allow the company to build Avenger or Sunbeam cars elsewhere in the United Kingdom.

The plant will shortly move to five days a week operation after a long spell on short-time working. The shop stewards said that the work force had accepted that, although they suspected that the burst of production was merely to build up stocks before closure, after which the company hoped to switch production to plants in England.

That intention has been denied by the management. One faint hope came yesterday during a BBC Radio Scotland interview with a spokesman for the international division of Nissan in Japan, which plans to open a production plant for Datsun cars in Britain. He said that Linwood might be a candidate for a new location, on which a feasibility study had begun.

The new Japanese plant would be built in a development area that had a local work force available and access to component manufacturers. But the spokesman made clear that Nissan preferred an undeveloped site that would allow it to build an ideal layout.

Linwood has the labour force but little else to match the Japanese criteria. It was one of the principal failures of the Scottish development that very little ancillary industry grew up alongside the car plant.

Mr John Davidson, secretary of the Confederation of British Industry in Scotland said that had satellite factories been established, some 15,000 jobs might now be at risk. The effect of the closure would have been felt throughout the whole British economy.

Decision to drop sickness pay change confirmed

By Our Political Reporter

Confirmation that the Government planned to postpone its proposals to transfer sickness payments for the first eight weeks to employers was given by the Prime Minister in the Commons yesterday.

The scheme, which will still have the eight-week time scale, will be brought back in the next parliamentary session.

Mrs Margaret Thatcher had been asked by Mr David Alton, Liberal MP for Liverpool, Edge Hill, whether a report to that effect in *The Times* yesterday was true. If it was, it would be received with great joy by many people running small businesses, he said.

The Prime Minister, agreeing that the scheme would not appear in this session's Social Security Bill, said new proposals had arisen which would match more closely the money paid out and returned to employers.

Mrs Thatcher was referring to the fact that ministers have met with strong resistance from employers, particularly from small businesses, over the proposals. The Government had offered 50 per cent reimbursement to businesses through a cut in employers' national insurance contributions and delayed repayments, but that was not accepted.

Mr Michael Grylls, Conservative MP for Surrey, North-West, and chairman of the Small Businesses Bureau, said last night: "The Government's decision is a victory for common sense. The proposals would have faced small businesses with serious cash flow problems."

Mr Benn must wait for portfolio in the Shadow Cabinet

By Fred Emery
Political Editor

Mr Wedgwood Benn is not for the moment being assigned a specific portfolio in the Labour Shadow Cabinet because Mr Michael Foot has filled all available posts, it was learnt last night. He will thus have to wait for a reshuffle or vacancy.

Mr Benn, who may by agreement with Mr Foot, Leader of the Opposition, make frontbench speeches, entered the Shadow Cabinet only because of the resignation of Mr William Rodgers. In the parliamentary party's election Mr Benn had been top of the list of those failing to secure election.

Before Mr Rodgers resigned, Mr Foot had been examining the possibility of giving him a special post as spokesman on regional industrial policy. That responsibility has meanwhile been given to Mr John Garrett.

That Mr Benn may challenge Mr Denis Healey in the election for deputy party leader to be held at the autumn conference is not at the moment regarded as likely by Mr Foot. Several key unions also oppose it.

Mr Benn has not made his position clear since he suggested according to members of the party's national executive, that they consider holding a special election conference before the autumn.

Given the unions' opposition, it is being assumed that Mr Benn would not stand and risk defeat in whatever electoral college formula then prevailed. However, such assumptions on left-wing tactics have in the past proved wrong.

Mr Foot today makes a considered defencve of the Labour Party in response to Mrs Shirley Williams's resignation from the executive. He takes her resignation letter as in effect a departure from the party itself, and, in a speech at Nelson, Lancashire, will make clear what he thinks of those who are harming the party in the manner of their leaving it.

City areas oppose loss of control over polytechnics

By Our Education Correspondent

The Association of Metropolitan Authorities announced yesterday its total opposition to government proposals to remove higher education from local government control.

In a statement after yesterday's meeting of the association's policy committee Mr Jack Smart, chairman of the AMA, and Mrs Nicols Harrison, chairman of its education committee, said that such a move would be wrong financially and educationally.

The Government's proposals to set up a national body to administer and fund polytechnics and other maintained colleges with a large proportion of advanced work have only been set out in a ministerial paper but a consultation document is expected to be published in the late spring.

Mr Smart and Mrs Harrison said that at a time when the Government was intent on shutting down quangos, it was proposing to establish another "massive and expensive" one. They were convinced there was "little if anything to be gained from the proposals

Seamen's agreement nearer

By our Labour Staff Reporter

Seamen's leaders and shipping employers were moving towards agreement last night on the terms for arbitration to end the merchant navy dispute of the past five weeks.

The two sides met for more than 12 hours at the London offices of the Advisory, Conciliation and Arbitration Service (Acas) and late last night Mr James Slater, general secretary of the National Union of Seamen, said the signs were good that an agreement could be reached.

In return for a resumption of normal working by the union's members the employers appeared close to agreeing to table a 12 per cent interim offer.

The arbitration panel, with an independent chairman appointed by Acas, will discuss the union's claim for all overtime to be paid at the rate of time and a half. It will compare British seamen's overtime pay with that of other seamen in Europe.

Mr Slater urged his members not to return to work until the terms of arbitration were settled.

Coercion in fraud inquiry is denied

By Our Social Services Correspondent

Allegations that social security fraud investigators coerced unemployed men to use their benefit money to advertise their availability for work during interviews in locked rooms were strongly denied yesterday by Mr Hugh Rossi, Minister for Social Security.

In each of three cases taken up by Mr Frank Field, Labour MP for Birkenhead, instructions in the secret *Fraud Investigator's Guide* were respected, Mr Rossi said in a letter released last night.

Those instructions stated, inter alia: "Investigation must invariably be fair and unbiased and have regard to the legal constraints . . . firm measures against fraud must not result in the unacceptable treatment of perfectly honest people".

Mr Rossi disclosed that the men were called in for interview after his department received reports that necessitated questions being asked.

One, a motor mechanic, was said to have been seen repairing and selling cars. Another had renewed his public service vehicle licence, stating that he had recent experience driving such vehicles. The third was reported to be leaving home early each day and returning after working hours.

"Quite clearly the department would have been failing in its duty if it did not check out the reports received", Mr Rossi wrote.

"Nothing causes greater scandal or a feeling of unfairness among ordinary hard-working men and women to see their pay packet decimated by taxes and contributions while neighbours are drawing social benefits and doing a job on the side, tax-free."

In one case there was no evidence of the man working while drawing benefit. In the other two the claimants had signed statements and said they intended to become self-employed. Advertising for trade was suggested to one man as a possible way of finding customers.

Mr Rossi said none of the three men was locked in during the interviews, but the doors were locked by a simple internal mortise knob so that conversation coud proceed in privacy.

He had been assured emphatically that none of the officers adopted a bullying, hectoring attitude, or threatened to withdraw benefit.

Prison officer cleared of murder

By Our Correspondent
Birmingham

Melvyn Jackson, aged [...] senior prison hospital [...] at Winson Green jail, B[...]ham, was cleared at B[...]ham Magistrates' Court [...] day of murdering a ma[...] was on remand at the pr[...]

Mr John Milward[...] stipendiary magistrate, [...] that there was not [...] evidence to send him [...] Crown Court for trial.

Mr Douglas Draycott, [...] the prosecution, alleged [...] Jackson killed Mr [...] Prosser, aged 32, of Hig[...] Sedgley, West Midlan[...] giving him a kick [...] stomach. It was further [...] that after realizing what [...] done Mr Jackson be[...] elaborate cover-up.

Surgeons' evidence supports brain death code of practice

By Our Medical Correspondent

Four months after the BBC *Panorama* programme on brain death, feelings still run high among those doctors who believe the public was unjustifiably frightened by the programme's questioning of the reliability of criteria used in Britain to diagnose irreversible death of the brain in patients maintained on artificial ventilators.

Next Thursday the medical issues will be debated for 90 minutes on BBC 1. The medical experts will attempt to allay the fears and uncertainties induced by the *Panorama* programme.

As a preliminary step in that campaign, detailed evidence is published in the *British Medical Journal* today in support of the code of practice for the diagnosis of brain death recommended by the Conference of Royal Colleges and Faculties.

The colleges' code relies on a series of clinical tests carried out by experienced doctors and specifically denies the need for any confirmatory instrumental tests such as an electroencephalogram. The journal's article, by three neurosurgeons headed by Professor Bryan Jennett, of Glasgow University, cites three bodies of evidence as justification of those clinical criteria.

The evidence is mainly based on the medical convention that the diagnosis of brain death is not necessarily followed immediately by the switching off of the ventilator, which would indeed make the diagnosis a self-fulfilling prophecy, as has been alleged by the critics.

In practice some patients will be kept on the ventilator for hours and sometimes days because relatives are unwilling to give permission for it to be switched off; in other cases the relatives cannot be found to give that permission; and a few doctors prefer to continue ventilation until the heart stops.

Does the heart always stop in those circumstances? The evidence collected by the neurosurgeons shows that the answer is "Yes". First, a review of 447 cases of brain death in published research reports showed no exceptions; once diagnosed as brain-dead all the patients died.

The second body of evidence came from three British neurosurgery units, Glasgow, Swansea and Cambridge, which together had diagnosed brain death in 609 patients, most of whom had either head injuries or bleeding inside the brain from rupture of a blood vessel.

Of those 609 patients ventilation was continued after brain death had been diagnosed in 326 cases, until eventually their hearts stopped. Again, none had recovered. The diagnosis was proved correct in every case.

Finally, the surgeons made an analysis of 1,939 patients with severe head injuries who had been admitted to hospitals in Britain, the Netherlands and the United States. Data on those patients had been collected for computer analysis for another research project. All of them had been in comas for at least six hours.

The clinical details of 1,003 patients who survived were examined to find whether at any time they had fulfilled the criteria for brain death. Only 127 had completely lost movement in all four limbs at their worst state. Of those, 102 still had active eye movements and other reflexes.

The remaining 25 had been given drugs, as part of the procedure of ventilation, that were known to depress reflexes or cause muscle paralysis. Drug treatment is one of the specific exclusions in the British criteria.

The surgeons admit that perhaps it was unfortunate that the evidence on which the colleges' criteria were based had not been published.

The report concludes: "Not only have we ourselves never encountered recovery in a patient fulfilling the United Kingdom brain death criteria, but even in the aftermath of the recent public controversy about this issue we have been told of no cases that were well enough documented to be convincing".

Dog show judge cleared of corruption charges

From Our Correspondent
Manchester

A senior dog show judge who was said to have lived in torment for three years after being accused of corruption was cleared at Manchester Crown Court yesterday of two charges of corruption in fixing shows.

Since being accused of taking bribes to fix shows, Frederick Dempster, aged 73, said he had lost two-and-a-half stones in weight and had a heart attack.

Mr Dempster, of Ashford Street, Stoke-on-Trent, Staffordshire, was alleged to have taken a £25 bribe in 1977 and to have agreed to accept a further £5 the next year. The charges were made after a Sunday newspaper investigation into a claim by Mr David Stevens, a dog trainer, that corruption was rife at dog shows; he set out to expose it.

Mr Stevens, of Red Willows, Harlow, Essex, had alleged that he paid Mr Dempster £25 and offered the £5 to ensure that dogs did well at shows in Manchester and Leeds.

Mr Dempster, a judge at Cruft's on seven occasions, had always denied accepting bribes and had officiated at shows since being charged. "People have confidence in me", he said. He will be judging in Valencia, Spain, next month.

Army helicop[...] hit by gunfire

An Army helicopter [...] by gunfire on Wednesd[...] was picking up a foot [...] in south Armagh, ne[...] border, it was disclosed [...] day.

Irish police later exc[...] fire with about five mask[...] who escaped north [...] border, and a search r[...] 1,000 rounds of ammun[...] a plastic bag and 9 [...] explosive.

Correction

Our report yesterday on [...] student fees wrongly s[...] that Oxford had dec[...] increase its fees above the [...] mended minima; but it [...] sidering charging more.

Efficiency the goal for improved Civil Service Department

By Peter Hennessy

The Prime Minister spelled out her prescription yesterday for a new look, improved Civil Service Department after her announcement in the Commons last month that the department had been reprieved and would not be merged with the Treasury.

In a White Paper published in response to a report from the Commons Select Committee on the Treasury and the Civil Service about the future of the Civil Service Department, the Government says its priority is "the pursuit of efficiency, particularly in the direct control of resources". The department would be reorganized to reflect that aim.

The document also discloses the preparation of a new scheme, known as "succession planning", designed to ensure that today's occupants of the highest posts in the Civil Service will be replaced by men and women chosen for their ability to control manpower and money.

The Government accepts the select committee's view that sustained ministerial interest and direction are needed if the department is to avoid past disappointments, and recognizes that it is "an essential instrument" in the achievement of a smaller and more efficient Civil Service.

Physical reorganization has been kept to a minimum. About twenty people will be transferred when the department's accountancy, finance and audit division moves into the Treasury.

Closer links between the department, the Treasury and the work of Sir Derek Rayner, joint managing director of Marks & Spencer and the Prime Minister's adviser on the elimination of waste, are to be achieved by a new body, under Treasury and not Civil Service Department chairmanship.

It has been charged with securing: (1) better planning and control of public spending programmes; (2) further development of financial responsibility and accountability by line managers in the Civil Service; (3) better matching of financial information produced for the public expenditure survey and estimates with that required for departmental management; and (4) a strengthening of internal audit inside departments.

The new body, whose exact composition is not disclosed in the White Paper, will be known as the financial management co-ordination group. Its chairman will be Mr Geoffrey Littler, a Treasury deputy secretary.

Sitting with him will be Mr Kenneth Sharp, head of the Government Accountancy Service, Mr Clive Priestley, an under-secretary from Sir Derek's staff in the Cabinet Office, and Mr Jonathan Charkham.

The Future of the Civil Service Department. Government Observations on the First Report from the Treasury and Civil Service Committee, Session 1980-81 (cmnd 8170, Stationery Office, £1.40).

Schools may get EEC cheap milk this year

By Hugh Clayton
Agriculture Correspondent

Cut-price milk financed by an EEC subsidy should be available this year to British schools.

Dr Mary Abbott, secretary of the milk committee of the union, said after a meeting yesterday of the council of the National Farmers' Union that the milk scheme, originally due to start in the summer term, might have to wait until the autumn because of administrative complications.

Farmers and dairymen want the subsidized scheme, worth £25m a year, to start as soon as possible to replace school milk sales lost since the obligation for local authorities to provide free milk was reduced by the Education Act, 1980.

Ministers hope to announce in the spring that the scheme has been cleared in Brussels and is acceptable to British education authorities.

This year is the tenth anniversary of the cuts in free school milk made by Mrs Margaret Thatcher as Secretary of State for Education and Science. To qualify for the EEC subsidy Britain has to agree to pay £6m a year towards it and to channel it through the common agricultural policy instead of the rate support grant.

Farmers and dairymen believe a rise in sales through schools offers the main hope in stemming the decline in milk consumption. Last year nine English counties stopped distributing free school milk.



Photograph by John Manning

Honey and son, the first Australian Cattle Dogs to appear in the Crufts dog show for 20 years.

Injunction raised cost of new building by £1.2m, court told

By Richard Ford

The £6m cost of building an Ismaili cultural centre opposite the Victoria and Albert Museum, in London, would rise by £1,200,000 because of a court injunction granted to a local resident, Miss Diane Hart, the actress, the Court of Appeal was told yesterday.

Work on the building, being erected by the Aga Khan Foundation, a registered charity, would be extended by nine months because of the restrictions imposed on development operations, it was added.

Miss Hart, of Thurloe Crescent, South Kensington, opposed an appeal by the foundation against the injunction granted to her after a hearing in chambers last month. Mr Donald Keating, QC, for the foundation, said the injunction restricted the hours contractors can work at the site, in Cromwell Gardens, the time loading and unloading can take place and the use of cement mixers.

He added that in an affidavit Miss Hart said that the builders had given her £500 as she had to get away from the disturbance, but that she eventually sought help in hospital after taking pills and drinking.

The hearing continues today.

Tory MPs press for child benefit increase

By Pat Healy
Social Services Correspondent

The Government is being pressed from its own back benches to raise child benefits. A deputation of Conservative MPs and a peeress has met Sir Geoffrey Howe, Chancellor of the Exchequer, to urge the case for increasing child benefits in the Budget next month.

They want an increase of 95p a week, raising the benefit to £5.70 a child, to restore its value to the level in April, 1979. That would make good the fall in value of child benefits when they were raised last November to £4.75.

Conservative MPs warned ministers last year that they would insist on that shortfall being made good, and rejected as insufficient ministerial statements that the value of child benefits would be maintained, subject to economic circumstances. That view was emphasized by the deputation, led by Mr Thomas Benyon, Conservative MP for Abingdon.

They said that child benefits needed to be raised both to help families and to reduce the poverty trap. Evidence produced at the meeting by Miss Ruth Lister, director of the Child Poverty Action Group, indicated that a family with two children were better off earning £55 a week rather than £75.

The MPs said after the meeting that they had found Sir Geoffrey "receptive".

Arts Council defends grants action

By Our Arts Reporter

Mr Kenneth Robinson, chairman of the Arts Council, said yesterday that having taken a decision to be more discriminating over the award of grants, he would be surprised if the council totally "reversed engines" next year and made only straight, across-the-board increases.

Both he and Sir Roy Shaw, the council's secretary-general, were critical of the way the recent allocation of cash, including the withdrawal of grant from 41 organizatioss, had been received. Mr Robinson said there had been "a good deal of misunderstanding and some misrepresentation".

Sir Roy said: "We did not withhold money, we redistributed it. Among the things most widely misunderstood was the alleged precipitousness of the decision to withdraw grants and the fact that there is no appeal. We had to act quickly in order not to keep our clients in suspense."

In the case of one big company there had been many letters about its quality of work over a period of two years, yet it had expressed surprise

"It is said the Arts Council is being very arrogant and that there should be an appeal. But this would be true only if we had removed money. What happened is that it was withdrawn from 41 and redistributed to 46 others."

The council would be anxious, he said, to find some way to give sufficient warnings to companies.

Foot attack on Duke over speech

By Our Parliamentary Correspondent

Mrs Margaret Thatcher was yesterday drawn into the exchanges between Labour and Conservative MPs over the propriety of the speech on Monday by the Duke of Edinburgh on the need for the United Kingdom to possess a nuclear deterrent.

Mr Michael Hamilton, Conservative MP for Salisbury, asked the Prime Minister at her question time in the Commons whether she would send a message out of goodwill and congratulations to the Duke for his outstanding speech. He pointed out that Mr Michael Foot, Leader of the Opposition, had recently sent a message to the Salisbury branch of the Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament.

Mrs Thatcher replied that she was sure there were the same thoughts in elevated situations of those of the Government.

Any government wishing to defend its people must see that it had sufficient nuclear weapons to deter an aggressor.

There were Conservative protests as Mr Foot remarked that the late Lord Mountbatten of Burma (in whose memory the Duke gave the lecture at Cambridge) perhaps knew more about war and nuclear weapons than even the Duke of Edinburgh.

Mrs Thatcher replied that Mountbatten was never a unilateralist, nor would he ever have been, because he had too much regard for the liberties of this country.

Club doorman is cleared of disco killing

Henry Doneghey, a club doorman, was cleared by a jury at the Central Criminal Court yesterday of the manslaughter of a man while evicting him from a disco club.

The victim, Mr John Sands, aged 30, a painter, of Cranworth Gardens, Stockwell, South London, had been trying to let friends into the club, the Music Machine, in Camden High Street, through an exit door without paying, Mr Michael Coombe, for the prosecution, said.

Mr Doneghey, aged 39, of Grafton Road, Kentish Town, was removing Mr Sands when he fell to the floor. He died despite resusitation efforts by club staff.

Former casino director on 40 charges

A former assistant managing director of Coral Casinos, who was arrested by FBI agents in San Francisco last month, at Marlborough Street Magistrates' Court, yesterday faced 40 charges of theft from gaming clubs, forgery, false accounting and criminal deception involving about £584,000.

Alan George Watts, aged 40, was remanded on bail of £20,000 until March 12. A warrant had been issued at the court last August for his extradition from the United States.

Mr Watts, of no fixed address, waived extradition rights and returned to England voluntarily after his arrest on a warrant in the United States on January 27.

'Missing link' attacked as new M20 section opens

By Peter Waymark
Motoring Correspondent

A new section of the M20 mid-Kent motorway which will link London with the Channel ports opens today amid controversy over a 15-mile "missing link" between Maidstone and Ashford.

Mr Anthony Hart, chairman of Kent County Council planning and transportation committee, has described the Government's decision to suspend work on that stretch as ludicrous. There has also been criticism from industry and MPs.

Mr Hart said yesterday that the Government had got its priorities wrong, extending the motorway system to declining ports like Hull, Grimsby and Immingham, while ignoring Dover, where traffic had more than doubled since 1970.

He is performing the opening ceremony today on the new 4.6-mile section of the M20 from West Kingsdown to Addington, which completes an unbroken 21-mile stretch from Swanley, on the edge of London, to south of Maidstone.

Mr Kenneth Clarke, Parliamentary Under-Secretary for Transport, said: "The Government firmly intends that the M20 gap will be closed. It is only a question of timing."

Attempt to repeal 1824 law

By Our Social Services Correspondent

An all-party group of MPs are to attempt to repeal vagrancy offences dating back to 1824. They will introduce a 10-minute rul Bill on February 24 and seek to amend the Criminal Attempt Bill, which will outlaw the present "sus" law.

Mr Albert Stallard, Labour MP for Camden, St Pancrass, North, who will introduce the new Bill, says in a statement today that the punitive legislation of 1824 should not be the answtr to unemployment and homelessness in 1981.

"It is utterly wrong that a 150-year-old law can still be used to brand as criminals people who only need a place to sleep or are poor and destitute."

The offences cover sleeping rough, begging and "being found on enclosed premises". In 1979, 268 people were imprisoned under the law.

HOME NEWS

Photograph by Peter Knowles

Harbour for sale: The picturesque harbour of Porthgain, Dyfed, which, with much of the adjoining village, is for sale by tender. For some seventy years it had a thriving trade in slates and granite. Commercial operations ceased in 1931 but it is still popular with yachtsmen and fishermen. The property also includes six cottages listed as of architectural interest, two houses, former port and quarry buildings, and some six and a half acres of grazing, through which passes the Pembrokeshire coast footpath. The harbour and quayside structures are scheduled ancient monuments. The tenants' families have lived in the area for generations,

Post Office curbs to remain

By Patricia Tisdall
Management Correspondent

Strict restrictions will remain on services post offices can offer accross the counter. An attempt to allow them to sell theatre tickets or any other form of private sector goods or services was defeated in committee yesterday.

An amendment to the Telecommunications Bill introduced by Mr Gregor Mackenzie, Labour MP for Rutherglen, and Mr Charles Morris, Labour MP for Manchester, Openshaw, was opposed by the Government side on the ground that it could create unfair competition for private traders.

Mr Michael Marshall, Under-Secretary of State for Industry was among those who argued that if post offices were free to sell, for eample, air tickets, it could be considered unfair competition to travel agents.

As it stands, the Bill gives post offices considerably more flexibility in the range of goods they can offer. It enables them to carry out work for any other nationalized industry and not just for government departments. It also lists other specified bodies for whom transactions can be carried out across post office counters.

But even those limited extensions of scope for new business are subject to explicit consent from the Secretary of State for Industry.

Post Office Corporation executives, however, believe *that the extensions as listed in* the Bill give them sufficient scope to recoup the business the corporation expects to lose from proposed changes in social security benefit payments.

An amendment was tabled to Clause 55 of the Bill which describes the powers and duties of the Post Office, which is to be separated from the activities of the telecommunications service.

University entry hard for would-be vets

By Diana Geddes
Education Correspondent

Veterinary science remains the most difficult subject on which to enter university. published yesterday by the Universities Central Council on Admission show that only one in five applicants who put veterinary science as their first choice were accepted at British universities last autumn.

The A level grades of the 1980 candidates are not yet available, but those for 1979 show that more than three-quarters of the successful veterinary science applicants achieved at least two grade Bs and an A. Only a quarter of all first degree entrants achieved those grades or better.

The next most "difficult" subject according to A level grades was medicine, with 60 percent of successful candidates having two Bs and an A or better. However, if judged *by the proportion of applicants* being accepted for the subject of their choice, one in three, medicine would come only equal eighth with art and design.

Competition for places in a particular subject seems to be a poor guide to its "difficulty" for university entry. Classics, for example, comes bottom in *that list, with* 82 per cent of applicants gaining places in their preferred subject, but third in the list of successful candidates with high A level grades.

Education, on the other hand, appears to be a very difficult subject on which to enter,

The accompanying chart ranks subjects according to the proportion of successful candidates with high A level grades.

UCCA Eighteenth report, 1979/80 (£1).
UCCA statistical supplement to the seventeenth report, 1978/9 (£2). (Universities Central Council on Admissions, PO Box 28, Cheltenham, Gloucestershire GL50 1HY).

Subject	No. of applicants for Oct, 1980, entry	% of successful candidates with two Bs and an A or better (1979)	% of applicants accepted for first choice (rank order in brackets)
1. Veterinary science	1,485	78*	19 (1)
2. Medicine	11,424	60	32 (=8)
3. Classics	703	41*	82 (27)
4. Mathematics	3,927	33	66 (26)
5. Law	9,567	36	35 (=10)
6. Physics	3,188	34	65 (25)
7. Chemistry	3,033	33	63 (24)
8. English	7,264	29	42 (=18)
9. Music	1,360	28	46 (20)
=10. History	4,498	27*	54 (23)
=10. Electrical eng.	7,684	27	36 (=12)
=12. Economics	3,807	25	38 (=14)
=12. Accountancy	3,065	25*	21 (2)
14. French	1,886	24	49 (22)
15. Mechanical eng.	6,041	22	35 (10)
=16. Geography	4,288	20	47 (21)
=16. Architecture	2,080	20*	31 (=6)
18. Art and design	1,573	19	32 (=8)
19. Pharmacy	2,785	17	26 (4)
20. Business studies	4,818	16	24 (3)
=21. Civil eng.	6,175	14	36 (=12)
=21. Biology	3,566	14	38 (=14)
23. Psychology	3,258	13	40 (=16)
24. Dentistry	2,559	11	31 (=6)
25. Sociology	2,783	9	42 (=18)
26. Agriculture	1,497	5	40 (=16)
27. Education	2,105	4	28 (5)
All subjects	147,249	26	57

* Figures subject to error because of small size of sample

In brief

Former police chief remanded

James Collie, aged 56, a former chief superintendent of police, of Ashton Way, Epsom, Surrey, was remanded on bail until February 26 at West London Magistrates' Court yesterday charged that between July 18, 1980, and February 9 last he stole a Metropolitan Police warrant card valued at £1 belonging to the Metropolitan Police.

He is further charged that on February 9 at West Brompton Underground statio with intent to deceive he impersonated a police officer; and on the same occasion failed to pay a 70p fare.

Woman dies after attack by dogs

Mrs Dorothy Dow, aged 72, of Beechfield Road, Erith, Kent, who was savaged by two Doberman dogs while out shopping on Monday, has died in hospital after a heart attack.

She was one of 11 people bitten by the dogs. Police said: "It seems the dogs went crazy when they were let out".

Extra money to fight delinquency

The Government is to make £150,000 more available to the Intermediate Treatment Fund *to match other funds providing* community-based projects to help to prevent delinquency.

Announcing the extra funds at the launching yesterday of Leicester Action for Youth Trust, Sir George Young, Under-Secretary of State for Health, said recent statistics showed a noticeable reduction in juvenile crime.

Police inquiry

A complaint against Mr Harry Atkinson, an assistant chief constable of Avon and Somerset Police, is being investigated, *the police disclosed* yesterday. He is recovering from an operation.

Sea speeding fine

William Mann, of Ladybank Hall, Dimple Dale, West Yorkshire, was fined £100 by Brighton magistrates yesterday for speeding off the coast at Brighton in a jet-powered boat.

Civic regalia warning

Police are urging town hall staffs in the North and Midlands to take extra precautions to safeguard their civic regalia, *including mayors' gold chains* of office, after a series of thefts.

NCCL policy on closed shop 'unchanged'

By Lucy Hodges

The reported support of the National Council for Civil Liberties for Miss Joanna Harris, who was dismissed by Sandwell council, in the West Midlands, for refusing to join a union, has caused some surprise.

The national council has been known to be equivocal or rather, agnostic, about the closed shop in the past and questions were raised yesterday about what had happened to change its mind. *The Times* quoted the group as expressing the same sort of sentiments as Mr Norris McWhirter, deputy chairman of *the Freedom Association.*

Miss Patricia Hewitt, the council's general secretary, said there was no change in its position. She had given a statement to the Press Association on Wednesday to the effect that Miss Harris's case was clearly one of unfair dismissal and therefore against the law.

The annual conference of the council, the policy-making body for the group, discussed the closed shop at its last two meetings and concluded that the issue raises conflicts of civil liberties which can be irreconcilable.

Miss Hewitt explained that there was, on the one hand, the individual's right not to join a union, as against the right of people at work, on the *other hand, to organize to*gether to improve their position. Most of the big trade unions are affiliated to the *council but it also has 5,000 in*dividual members.

The executive committee of the council, had however, decided that where someone had a religious objection or where a closed shop was introduced and any of the existing employees did not want to join the union, they should not be made to.

Miss Harris, who worked for Sandwell before the closed shop agreement came into effect, was dismissed when *she* refused to join.

The council takes a different line on new employees joining an organization which has a closed *shop agreement. They* should not be entitled to protection.

Army arson charge

Gunner Robert Patrick Langdon, aged 20, of 32 Guided Weapons Regiment, was remanded in custody until next Monday by magistrates at Salisbury, Wiltshire, yesterday accused of arson at the officers' mess, where he worked as a waiter.

Minister denies that Nationality Bill is aimed at 'births in transit lounges'

By Philip Webster
Parliamentary Staff

The Government's decision to depart in the British Nationality Bill from the principle that every child born in the United Kingdom has an automatic right *to British citizenship* was defended yesterday by Mr Timothy Raison, *Minister* of State, Home Office, as sound and being based on common sense and the realities of modern times.

He said that there were a wide range of circumstances in which there was no justification for continuing to allow children born in the United Kingdom to have citizenship unless one of the parents was subsequently accepted for settlement.

At the Commons standing *committee on the Bill* he said that such circumstances covered the couple in Britain for a short stay when a birth took place unexpectedly, people like students who were in the country for long periods but still temporarily, and people who had remained in breach of entry conditions, or who had entered illegally.

The main uneasiness the Government felt was that allowing birth to confer citizenship on such children would mean that after they had gone home their own children, born overseas years later, would be British citizens by descent.

Additional British citizens would be created "in some numbers" who had little or no connexion with the United Kingdom. He denied that the Government was aiming its proposals at "births in transit lounges and at public monuments".

To Opposition demands for information on the numbers involved, Mr Raison said he would not claim that any accurate figures existed. Nor would he argue that the figures were *very relevant.* The point was mainly one of principle, but even if the figures were as small as some had suggested they would still mount over the years with the effect of an increase in Britain's potential immigration commitment.

Mr Raison disclosed, however, that admissions of foreign nationals rose from about 850,000 in 1953 to more than 10 times that number in 1979.

In the latter year there were nearly 12 million admissions of Commonwealth citizens and *foreign nationals, most of* whom were visitors, but there were also 120,000 students and 18,000 work permit holders with their dependants; 40,000 other people were given leave to enter for 12 months and 7,000 au pairs were admitted.

In the 12 months ended in September, 1980, about 1,500 illegal entrants were detected, compared with 900 in the previous 12 months. It was plain, Mr Raison said, that the number of people given leave to enter the country had increased dramatically in recent years, as had the number of ilegal entrants detected.

When the committee adjourned until next week it was still considering the first Opposition amendment, moved on Tuesday, aimed at reestablishing the principle of automatic right to citizenship.

WEST EUROPE

Forty-six bomb attacks blast Corsica after court passes prison sentences on autonomists

From Charles Hargrove
Paris, Feb 12

A spate of bomb attacks erupted in Corsica last night after the Court for State Security here had sentenced eight militants to prison terms ranging from 18 months to four years.

Seven others were given suspended sentences, the fine against them having been covered by their detention, pending trial.

There were no facilities in the 46 bomb attacks, which caused extensive damage to property. The number far exceeded that of the famous "blue night" of July, 1978, a month after President Giscard d'Estaing visited Corsica promising economic support for the Corsican economy but refusing concessions to the autonomists.

The attacks were meant to demonstrate that, in spite of a wave of arrests, the autonomists' network throughout the island was unimpaired.

Last night's attacks were, as usual, aimed at public buildings; banks, shops, and the property of Frenchmen from the mainland or Algeria, as well as motor vehicles. In Ajaccio, for instance, the flat of the tax inspector was badly damaged as well as the law courts, the central tax offices and a restaurant.

At Sagone, in the south, the post office, a service station and a beauty "parlour" were the targets. In Propriano the local office of the gas and electricity board, a symbol of French "colonialism" for the autonomists, was damaged.

The villa and a camping ground belonging to Parisians were partly destroyed near Calvi, in the north. At Saint Florent, a bank was singled out for two bomb attacks while at Biguglia, south of Bastia, three commercial premises which had already been damaged by explosives last year, received the autonomists' attention.

There seems no possibility of breaking out of the vicious circle of agitation and repression. Although the activists among the autonomists are in a tiny minority on the island—with the French Government maintaining that there is no cause to make the political concessions—they enjoy the passive support of many of their fellow islanders.

They hold a deep grievance against the Government in Paris, a feling of injured pride exacerbated by economic difficulties, lack of job opportunities in Corsica, and the high rate of unemployment which compels young Corsicans to go into "exile" in France in search of work.

The Government has for years used a combination of the stick and the carrot, subsidies and economic inducements. But the autonomists' agitation persists even if it is only a marginal phenomenon and creates a climate of uncertainty and fear.

In the trial which ended yesterday after nearly a month of hearings, the chief public prosecutor, in his summing up, struck a moderate note. He insisted that "the law derives its strength from restraint. If these men went too far, let us not follow in their footsteps".

The men were in court for their part in the so-called Bastelica affair of January last year, when about 200 armed autonomists surrounded the village near Ajaccio and held three men whom they accused of being members of the "Francia" anti-autonomist organization, and agents provocateurs of the Government.

Two days later riot police cleared the village without firing a shot but 30 autonomists made a successful getaway and barricaded themselves in an Ajaccio hotel, where they held a dozen people. The hotel was invaded after a 48-hour siege by men of the special anti-gang squad, without loss of life. But in the streets of the city, two young Corsicans were shot and a policeman was killed.

The trial opened on January 14 in a tense atmosphere because of the hunger strike staged by six of the eight men who had been committed to prison awaiting trial (the others had been freed on bail) in support of their demand for the status of political prisoners.

But they had decided to end their hunger strike in order to give evidence about the activities of members of anti autonomist organizations acting as agents of the authorities. Counsel for the defence made a clear distinction between the Union of the Corsican People, the legal autonomist movement to which the accused belonged, and the terrorists of the separatist Corsican National Liberation Front.

They pleaded legitimate self-defence against a "terrorist anti-autonomist commando" and asked for the case to be dismissed. The prosecutor appeared to accept this in part when he said that the "real instigators of the Bastelica case are not in court".

The case against three men alleged to be members of the anti-autonomist commando at Bastelica is being investigated separately. If they are brought to trial it will do much to undermine the autonomists' contention that French justice applies double standards to rival groups of agitators.

Constantine supporters seize royal coffin

From Our Own Correspondent
Athens, Feb 12

King Constantine, the fromer King of the Hellens, returned to Greece today for the first time in 13 years, to bury his mother, Queen Frederika, in the family graveyard of Tatoi, and left five hours later to resume his life in exile.

His presence at the burial *service provoked an exuberant* outburst from one group of young supporters who seized the coffin and took it to the church, while another group carried the former King shoulder high.

At one point, when the crowd started chanting royalist songs and anti-government slogans, the former king urged them to keep quiet. The police had evidently orders not to interfere during the service, although there was a great deal of pushing and screaming.

His brief visit touched off a heated political controversy that caught the Greek Government between opposition charges that it was violating the constitution, and protests from the royal family over the restrictions imposed at the funeral.

The body of Queen Frederika, the former queen mother, was laid to rest next to the grave of her husband, King Paul, after a funeral service at the chapel of the Tatoi summer palace, conducted by the Greek Primate, Archbishop Serapheim.

The coffin, draped in the royal standard, was flown today to Tatoi airfield from Madrid where Queen Frederika died at the age of 63.

For her only son, King Con*stantine, this was* his first homecoming since his flight abroad after his abortive counter-coup against the military dictatorship in December, 1976. Seven years later, with the downfall of the junta, a popular referendum on the monarchy resulted in a two-to-one vote against him.

There was no fanfare and no guard of honour. He was met by Mr Constantine Mitsotakis, the Foreign Minister, who was there to greet members of foreign royal families



King Constantine falls to his knees on reaching Greek soil after a 13-year exile.

The Greek Government, in an effort to minimize the political excitement over this visit and fearing that monarchist manifestations could provoke counter-demonstrations and riots, declared the district of Tatoi out of boudds to anyone except a few score guests that the royal family was allowed to invite.

At the same time it insisted that King Constantine should not remain in Greece overnight, but leave as soon as the ceremony was over.

Ober members of reigning royal houses who arrived privately included the Duke of Edinburgh, who flew in on board a two-engined RAF aircraft of the Queen's Flight. Princess Juliana of the Netherlands, Prince Albert of Belgium and other European royalty.

SPD closes its ranks in support of Chancellor

From Our Own Correspondent
Bonn, Feb 12

The Social Democratic Party (SPD) executive today rallied behind Herr Schmidt, the West German Chancellor, with a five point declaration intended to end an internal crisis.

Herr Willy Brandt, the party chairman, told a press conference afterwards: "The SPD will not split". It stood loyally and firmly behind the Government, he said.

The executive struggled for seven hours during the night to settle the internal disputes between the Chancellor and the party's discontented left. The Chancellor, who had been careful to appear relaxed and unworried in public, was heard by journalists outside shouting in outbursts of anger.

The meeting produced a five point document laying down the party line on disputed issues. No one voted against but five left wingers abstained, Herr Brandt said, because they disagreed with the wording of some points.

It began by stating that the SPD's task was "the decided support of Helmut Schmidt and his Government". It told left-wingers who might prefer opposition to Herr Schmidt's rule that "the chance to form policy mus not be given up because there were problems".

The document contained a clear warning that further disputes would damage the party's chances in the important West Berlin elections in May which could influence the future of the Government in Bonn.

It ended by admonishing party leaders to stop criticizing each other in public and warning left-wingers that individuals cannot assume the authority to decide what party policy should be.

The executive reiterated the party's and Government's support of the Nato decision to station new medium-range nuclear missiles in Europe coupled with negotiations with the Soviet Union on reducing their numbers. It emphasized that the Government would press for a de facto observance of the Salt 2 treaty on strategic *arms limitation and* a continuation of the "Salt process".

Some left wingers had begun questioning the party's commitment to the dual Nato decision because their support had been given on the understanding that Salt 2 would be ratified by the United States Congress, which it has not.

On the disputed subject of nuclear energy it recalled that the party gave priority to energy saving measures, coal-fuelled stations and development of alternative sources of energy. Nuclear energy should be used only when needs cannot be met any other way.

It attempted to deal with the controversial question of the Brokdorf nuclear power station near Hamburg by saying that it fitted in with party policy; but so would its replacement by several coal-fuelled stations.

It made no direct mention of possible arms exports to Saudi Arabia, on which the Chancellor and many SPD members

Leniency likely for returned terrorist

From Patricia Clough
Bonn, Feb 12

Michael Baumann, the second reformed terrorist to be found living in London, faces trial in West Berlin on five charges including bank robbery, bomb attacks and attempted murder.

But justice officials thought it likely that his public appeals to former comrades to "throw your guns away" and his changed ways would lead to a mild sentence if he was convicted. "Judges are obliged to consider not only the crime itself, but other factors, such as whether the person has repented", one official said.

Herr Baumann is being kept in Moabit prison, Berlin, after returning voluntarily last night from London. The West German Federal Criminal Office declined to say whether it had provided the information which had led to the arrest of Herr Baumann.

But officials from the criminal office confirmed that detectives from their highly specialist terrorist search squad had flown to London on receiving word of his arrest on Tuesday and that investigations into his contacts were continuing.

Herr Baumann, is charged with membership of a criminal organization, participation in the attempted rescue of two women terrorists from prison, several bank robberies and bomb attacks against the British Yacht Club and two British cars in Berlin.

*He is also accused of the at*tempted murder of a policeman during a gunfight in which a comrade was shot. It was the death of this comrade, Herr Georg von Rauch, which induced Herr Baumann to renounce terrorism.

While the police sought him in vain, he gave interviews in West German magazines and even on television—appealing to his comrades to give up their fight.

He also published a book in 1978 entitled *How It All Began* which described why he joined the June 2 Movement, a Berlin terrorist group, and why he later changed his mind.

Frau Astrid Proll, another reformed terrorist arrested in London about two years ago, was held up as an example by the Interior Ministry in an unsuccessful campaign to induce repentant terrorists to give themselves up.

Her sentence—five and a half years for bank robbery and falsifying documents—was in no way lenient and the court explained that although she had changed her lifestyle, she had not expressly disassociated herself from terrorism. But she was pardoned the rest of her sentence because she had already spent two thirds of it in jail.

US sceptical about results of Madrid talks

From Richard Wigg
Madrid, Feb 12

The European Security Review conference entered today into the drafting sage of its final communique in keeping with its time table. But the delegates from the 35 countries that signed the Helsinki Final Act disclosed, as everyone suspected, that they had precious little ready to communicate to each other and they promptly adjourned.

Even an agenda for beginning this final stage of what has been throughout an ill-starred meeting because of the worsening East-West climate has not yet been fully agreed. In the corridors there was talk of things being in the doldrums, Mr Leonid Ilyichev, a Deputy Soviet Minister of Foreign Affairs, was expecting to return to Moscow to await any significant developments the conference might still produce.

One of the two working groups which today had so little to say for itself was precisely the one charged with a follow-up meeting to Madrid in order to keep the Helsinki process alive.

Today's session took place under the impact of a tough speech delivered late yesterday by Mr Max Kampelman, the chief American delegate. At a plenary session with Mr Ilyichev in the chair, Mr Kampelman restated the West's basic case for scepticism towards the Russians' insistence that the Madrid meeting must end with agreement to hold a disarmament conference.

In a single sentence Mr Kampelman made it clear how little appropriate the United States judged the present juncture in international relations for any serious disarmament *effort: "My country has* reluctantly concluded that it must now strengthen its armed forces," he said flatly.

Mr Kampelman has evidently not yet received his instructions from the new Reagan Administration on the stand the United States will take over the French disarmament proposal, tabled before Christmas and now supported in varying degrees by all the other Nato countries. The proposal is limited in scope to measures concerning land forces that could build up mutual confidence.

Without committing himself, Mr Kampelman commended to others the French draft's emphasis on measures of real significance, verifiable, and extending to the Ural mountains.

Mr Kampelman devoted most of his speech to explaining why the Soviet-supported Polish proposal for a conference on *military disarmament* and détente was wholly unacceptable.

"It is absurb to believe that confidence in Europe can be built by such declamatory measures," he concluded. "Such assurances are especially hollow in the face of the Soviet Union's brutal invasion of Afghanistan, its determined and continuing military expansion, and its obvious reluctance to accept the concepts of 'military significance' 'verification', obvious reluctance to accept the concepts of 'military significance' 'verification' 'binding' and extension to the Urals".

He ridiculed the Soviet Union's reluctance to admit that measures to build up confidence should apply farther than 250 kilometres (155 miles) within its western frontier



WEST EUROPE

Germans infuriated by British stance on EEC fishing policy

From Michael Hornsby
Brussels, Feb 12

The collapse in the early hours of this morning of the umpteenth attempt by EEC ministers of agriculture to agree on a common fisheries policy has seriously strained Britain's relations with West Germany.

Mr Peter Walker, *infuriated* his West German counterpart, Herr Josef Ertl, by refusing to approve an agreement with Canada that would allow EEC boats to fish off Labrador in return for *tariff* reductions on Canadian sea food exports to the Community.

The agreement poses problems in that most of the Canadian fish would be sold on the already depressed British market, but Mr Walker's main reason for withholding approval was to retain a bargaining counter in the dispute over the EEC's internal fisheries regime.

Under the agreement some *14,500 tonnes of fish, maily cod,* could be caught by EEC boats in Canadian waters. West German trawlermen, who get the bulk of this catch, are angry and frustrated at being denied such a valuable haul.

The *Germans* say that unless their fishermen can get into Canadian waters by the beginning of March at the latest the agreement's value will be much reduced because after that *date icebergs make fishing* dangerous.

Herr Ertl is convinced that the British are now maintain ing their veto the Canadian agreement out of sheer malice He accused Mr Walker of "ungenltemanly conduct" and said he was an "even more unpleasant negotiator than Mr John Silkin, the previous Agriculture Minister and noted anti-marketeer.

The *Germans* were not the only ones to be irritated by Mr Walker's performance. When talks broke down last December, most of the blame was aimed at France—but there was a lot more sympathy for the French point of view last night.

In the eyes of the Germans an dthe French, at least, there was a clear link betwene last May's agreement on Britain's EEC budget refund and an early solution to the fisheries dispute, and it was being *openly suggested yesterday that* Britain had reneged on its part of the bargain.

The atmosphere is bound to be much more difficult when agriculture ministers meet *again on March 9 and 10. There* is a danger that the whole dispute will become caught up in the annual negotiations on farm prices. With the French presidential elections only a month away, M Daniel Hoeffel, the French Fisheries Minister, will find it even harder to offer concessions.

The one glimmer of light is that the ministers of agriculture, for the first time this *week, started to look at ways of* satisfying Mr Walker's most contentious demand—that access of continental fishing vessels to British coastal waters should be physically controlled.

The gap between Britain and France, the two main protagonists, on the rules that should govern fishing within 12 miles of the British coast has narrowed. The French can probably accept that this zone *should be reserved essentially* for British boats provided the French can maintain a reasonable level of traditional fishing there.

But much more difficult is the British demand for a ban on boats more than 80ft long in areas beyond 12 miles off the north of Scotland and in the Irish Sea. The French say that beyond 12 miles the rules of free access must be guaranteed. *The Dutch-sponsored* compromise—a system of licensing—misfired mainly through lack of detailed preparation.

Food lorries held up by fishermen's barricades

From *Patricia Clough*
Bonn, Feb 12

Angry West GGerman fishermen today stopped lorryloads of French, Danish and Dutch fish reaching processing factories at *Bremerhaven in* protest at th efailure of the Brussels negotiations.

By mid afternoon eight refrigerator lorries were held up at barricades of fish crates set up by the fishermen on the approach roads to the harbour. The fishermen said they would put up similar road blocks tonight around Cuxhaven, West Germany's other big deep sea fishing port.

Some of the fish had been brought in to make up for the lack of GGerman fish caused by the delays in Brussels.

Yesterday the fishermen occupied the locks at the entrance to the harbour and prevented a French vessel from entering. They hinted that they might establish road blocks on the border with Denmark, thought to be partly responsible for the lack of agreement. "We will first find out who is the bogeyman of Europe and then consider further measures", a spokesman said.

The fishermen said that if the *German deep sea fishing vessels had to return from* their present fishing grounds off Canada and eastern Greenland for lack of further quotas they would blockade the big north German ports.

In Hamburg, seven offshore fishing vessels today blockaded the Elbe in protest at the pollution of the river

British priority: In spite of the breakdown of fishing talks *in Brussels a few hours earlier,* Mr Alick Buchanan-Smith, Minister of State for Agriculture and Fisheries yesterday spelt out the Government's priorities for when the EEC finally arrives at a common fisheries policy (Our parliamentary staff write).

"The overall objective is to try to get a better balance throughout the Community between fishing opportunities and catching effort", he told the standing committee in the House of Commons considering the Fisheries Bill.

To do that they must first look at scrapping grants to deal with that section of the British fishing fleet which no longer had opportunities open to it, and, secondly, they would lay strong emphasis on grants for modernization, improvement and *building new vessels.*

Italian police chief lifts secrecy

Single unit is proposed to tackle twin evils

From Peter Nichols
Milan, Feb 12

This was one of those rare occasions on which what happened was less important than that it happened at all. General Carlo Alberto Dalla Chiesa, still the most celebrated scourge of Italian terrorists, talked publicly in Milan about his work and about himself.

He called for the setting up of a single organization with a single approach to the two problems of the Mafia and terrorism. In his 40 years with the carabinieri, the general has personally *faced* both.

He admitted today that he clearly saw himself as the model for *the carabinieri officer in one* of Leonardo Sciascia's novels about the Mafia. But he is best known for his brief year at the head of the carabinieri's antiterrorist squad, a post created for him in the summer of 1978 as part of an effort to convince public opinion that something was being done after the murder by terrorists of Signor Aldo Moro, the former Prime Minister.

General *Dalla Chiesa* no longer has special functions of anti-terrorism. The post was abolished when he took over the Northern division of the carabinieri which has 27,000 men and is based here. He still holds his command.

His reputation in the past was for vigour and dedication, a certain impetuosity, a notable ability to win loyalty and a preference for the greatest possible degree of secrecy. He did not, he confirmed today, give his direct telephone number even to his children.

He was the first military figure in Italy's postwar democracy to make a *formidable* name for himself in the public eye even if he himself is the last to deny any political ambitions. Indeed, talking to him it was noticeable how great was his formal *respect* for the politicians. More to the point today was the day the secrecy went.

The general agreed to be interviewed for television by Signor Enzo Biagi, a *well-known* writer and journalist. They in*vited a small group of guests* to listen and then to continue over lunch with this process of revealing the general's true self.

Talking about his work against the terrorists, he said that he did not think Italian terrorism was different in kind from that elsewhere except for the Italian emotionalism—"A kind of drug which we carry around with us. A light drug *but it is there.*"

On the question of inspiration from abroad for Italian terrorism he said: "When there are two powers—two worlds—opposed to each other, it would be absurd to think that both sides would not be active in the search for a theatre in which to pursue certain strategies in economic and political fields".

His humanity began to emerge clearly when he talked of the value of repentance among terrorists. A young man might become a terrorist almost in spite of himself, being forced to take a new step by his leaders with every new operation until he had reached the point of killing his first victim.

The general felt there must be terrorists seeking "liberation" from what they had done expiation, a way to save themselves and others. *He had* always supported measures which would encourage repentance.

He made only one distinction between right-wing and left-*wing terrorism. The right* had a cultural background "sparse in content and poorly digested, so much so that it leads to a more noticeable degree of danger because of its unpredictability and immediacy. The left on the other hand has an ideological strain on which it based a strategy of violence against the state's institutions".

Had we made any mistakes? Well, he might have made one by coming here today he suggested . . . but hardly. Apart from some nervous handwringing at the beginning, he carried off the occasion with a mixture of sentiment and decision.

OVERSEAS

Dry humour causes unlikely row

From Michael Leapman
New York, Feb 12

New Yorkers are seldom content without some intangible dread to worry about and they have been working themselves into a rare fret about the prospect of a spring drought.

Nerves are so frayed that Mr Edward Koch, the Mayor, has found himself in an unlikely slanging match with the citizens of Greenwich, Connecticut.

All over the north-eastern United States, after an arid autumn and winter, reservoirs are at less than a third of their capacity. Heavy rain yesterday took some of the edge from the doom-watching, but more rainfall is needed before fears are truly dampened.

Posters and advertisements have been urging us to save all we can—to have smaller baths and shorter showers. Mr Koch has been filmed shaving from a basin instead of under a running tap, and he has invented a rude little rhyme *whose import is to encourage* less frequent flushing of the lavatory.

Carried away by his enthusiasm, the mayor warned us all of the fate of the poor people of Greenwich, whose reservoirs are even emptier than ours. "People there don't take showers every day any more", he said.

"It's getting so you can tell when someone comes from *Greenwich, Connecticut. We* don't want that to happen in New York City."

The clear implication is that people from Greenwich stink—and they were swift to react. Had there been enough water, they would have worked themselves into a rare lather.

The mayor protested that he had meant no harm, that he had merely been trying to dramatize the situation to bring home its gravity. "*A little* humour makes the pain bearable", he explained.

Mr Koch is up for reelection this year and it is lucky that the citizens of Greenwich do *not have* a vote. Otherwise he would, in the local patois, take a bath.

Zimbabwe plan to attract aid

From Stephen Taylor
Salisbury, Feb 12

The Zimbabwe Government today outlined a three-year economic plan as a prelude to a conference of aid donors due to *be held* here next month, when it hopes to obtain $Z21,200m (about £800m) in foreign capital for land and development projects.

Announcing the scheme, Mr *Bernard Chidzero, Minister of* Economic Planning and Development, said Zimbabwe needed "a single massive injection of aid" to overcome inequalities and set it on the road to prosperity.

While the Lancaster House agreement leading to Zimbabwes' independence recognized the need for such a programme it had not set out the methods for mobilising aid and, Mr Chidzero said, the response of the international community had so far been disappointing.

This point has been made frequently by ministers here, notably by Senator Enos Nkala, Minister of Finance, who told the House of Assembly recently that Zimbabwe was "at war" with Britain over aid.

Foreign governments have so far promised Zimbabwe a total *of $Z196.9m in grants and loans.* Of the $Z131m pledged in grants, about 40 per cent has been received while less than 1 per cent of about $Z65m expected in loans has been received.

Mr Chidzero described the conference—to which 45 nations and representatives of the EEC, the World Bank, the IMF, Opec and the African Development Bank have been invited—as the "most significant challenge to mankind since World War Two".

"Our claims are not begging", Mr Chidzero said. The country had the resources and *infrastructure* to enable it, with the right aid at the outset, to become a future donor to other Third World countries.

Black editors named: The appointment of three blacks *in* place of whites as editors of Zimbabwe's three main newspapers was announced by the Zimbabwe Newspapers Group today.

Mr Robin Drew, editor *of The Herald* is to be replaced by *Mr Farayi Munyuki, publicity* secretary in the United States for Mr Mugabe's Zanu-PF Party. Mr Munyuki has written for the *Times of Zambia* and the *Zambia Daily Mail.*

Mr Sandy Robertson, editor of the *Bulawayo Chronicle*, is to be replaced by Mr Tommy Sithole, former chief reporter on the *Daily News* in Tanzania, and Mr Willie Musarurwa, former publicity secretary for Mr *Nkomo will take over* from Mr Eric Richmond as editor of the *Sunday Mail.*—Reuter.

Japan's loss of islands seen as punishment

Moscow, Feb 12.—Japan has no claim to the Kurile Islands because the loss of those territories was "the punishment it deserved" after the Second World War, the Soviet weekly *New Times* said today.

It condemned the "anti-Soviet clamour" of demonstrations held in Japan earlier this week, adding: "The principle of the immutability of post-war frontiers is the most important condition of lasting peace."—UPI.

South Africans claim white extremist group is broken up

From Nicholas Ashford
Johannesburg, Feb 12

The South African authorities believe they have smashed *an* extreme right-wing organization which for the past 18 months has been carrying out a campaign of bombings and intimidation against *verligte* (liberal) academics, non-racial *institutions,* black leaders and blacks living illegally in white urban areas.

Mr Louis Le Grange, Minister of Police, announced earlier this week that the *security* police had detained four leading suspects of an organization known as the Wit Kommando (White Commando) and that they were hoping for another arrest in the near future.

Among those detained was Mr B. Fotheringham, leader of the National Front in South Africa which has close links with its British counterpart. Mr Le Grange also said that police had uncovered a large *armoury of modern explosives.* detonators and weapons.

The Wit Kommando is alleged to have been responsible for a whole series of violent incidents in recent months. These include bomb explosions in the offices of two prominent Afrikaans academics, Professor Jan Lombard of Pretoria University and Professor Franz Maritz of the University of South Africa.

The explosion at Professor Lombard's *office came after the* publication of a set of proposals by him for a multiracial dispensation in Natal involving whites, Indians and blacks. Professor Maritz's offices were blown up after he had appeared as a defence witness at the recent "Silverton bank siege" trial in Pretoria during which he compared the rise of black nationalism to the development of Afrikaner nationalism and *gave warning* that a "*man who* sits in jail today may tomorrow sit in government".

Other incidents attributed to the Wit Kommando include a bomb explosion last month out*side the office of* a member of the Natal provincial assembly in Durban, a bomb attack on the house of the Transkei consul in Port Elizabeth and bombs at two non-racial drive-in cinemas.

A number of prominent blacks, among them Bishop Desmond Tutu, general-secretary of the South African Council of Churches, have received threatening letters from the Wit Kommando and a number of Coloureds and Indians living in twilight areas of Johannesburg have been warned that their homes would be blown up if they did not move not by the end of this week.

White extremist organizations are not new to South Africa. Some have had distinguished members. The Ossewa Brandwag which carried out a campaign of bombings and terror during the Second World War counted Mr John Vorster, the former Prime Minister, and General Hendrik van den Bergh, former head of the Bureau of State Security among *its members.*

For a number of years an organization known as Scorpio terrorized white liberals, mainly in the Cape region. Some of the Government's most outspoken critics, such as Mrs Helen Joseph, have been the constant targets of threatening telephone calls, "dirty" tricks and gun attacks.

What is significant about the new wave of white extremism, however, is that it is increasingly directed at Afrikaans rather than English-speaking white liberals and that it comes at a time when there is a growing right-wing reaction against the Government's cautiously reformist policies.

This mood of white reaction has been expressed by a recently created women's organization known as the Kappiekommandos. The Kappiekommandos, who are said to number about 7,000 and who operate a cell system similar to underground insurgent organizations, wear black bonnets and capes to symbolize the era of darkness which they believe is taking over the country.

M François Mitterrand, the French Socialist leader, walking beside the Great Wall of China. He is spending a week in the country

Legal snag for Britons held in Iran

From Tony Allaway
Tehran, Feb 12

Iran's Supreme Court leader said today that there was still a legal difficulty to be settled before four jailed Britons could be freed.

"There is one more question that should be explained and (made) clear, and after that they can release them", Ayatollah Beheshti, who also heads the powerful Islamic Republican Party, said. He added: "I don't think (it is) anything serious".

The four Britons, Dr John and Dr Audrey Coleman, Miss Jean Waddell, who are missionaries and Mr Andrew Pyke, businessmen have been imprisoned by the Iranian authorities since last August. No charges have so far been laid against them.

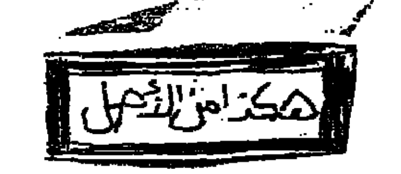
Last week Ayatollah Beheshti told journalists that the judicial authorities would make a "final decision" concerning the cases of the four. He indicated *today,* however, that while that decision had been taken—and allegations of spying appeared to be included in this—a further legal difficulty had cropped up.

Speaking in English, he would only answer three of our questions before he was spirited secretly out of the mosque to avoid the crowds that continued to wait for him. He said the outstanding problem still involved a question of their "guilt", a sign that more than a mere legal technicality was *in*volved.

But he also said that the need to clear the difficulty up arose from a fear that, if it was left outstanding, the authorities concerned would be left open *to* "public" criticism.

Ayatollah Beheshti added that hh had not been able to meet Mr Terry Waite, representative of the Archbishop of Canterbury, who has been conducting secret negotiations for the Briton's release.

But he said: "I have told the authorities in the revolutionary court that they should try to (hand over) these four to this priest".



OVERSEAS

Moscow takes unusual step of publishing diplomatic reply to US

From David Cross
Washington, Feb 12

The State Department said today that it "regretted" that the Soviet Union had chosen to take "the unusual step" of publishing the text of a long confidential letter from Mr Andrei Gromyko, the Soviet Foreign Minister, to Mr Alexander Haig, his new American counterpart.

The letter, copies of which were issued to news organizations in Washington by the Information Department of the Soviet Embassy late yesterday, refuted charges made about Soviet behaviour in Iran, Poland and Afghanistan.

It also accused Washington of numerous bellicose actions, including "distortion" of Soviet motives and "open interference" in Poland.

Explaining the State Department's reaction to the sudden and unprecedented Soviet move, a spokesman said that Washington considered "confidentiality essential to the conduct of diplomacy". He added that "for that reason" the State Department would not be releasing copies of a letter sent by Mr Haig on January 24 to which the published letter from Mr Gromyko was a reply.

None of the points contained in the Soviet Foreign Minister's letter were particularly new or unexpected.

But the decision by the Moscow authorities, who normally place great importance on confidentiality and secrecy to publish in full a diplomatic message from such a senior Soviet official was seen here as a sign of Russian deep concern about the present state of Soviet-American relations. President Reagan and Mr Haig have had harsh things to say about Soviet behaviour since taking office last month.

In an introduction to the letter, the Soviet Embassy here said it was publishing the contents of Mr Gromyko's letter sent on January 28 because the contents of the letter from Mr Haig to Mr Gromyko "has been made public by the United States side".

This statement was in fact untrue at the time it was made since no text of Mr Haig's letter had by then appeared in the American press, although some newspapers had mentioned briefly the main points made by the new Secretary of State in his original communication.

After the publication of the Soviet letter, the State Department considered briefly today whether or not it should disclose the contents of Mr Haig's original message, which was sent to Moscow just four days after President Reagan took office.

The Secretary of State clearly decided, however, that this would not be in America's best interests.

From what Mr Gromyko had to say, it is, however, fairly clear that Mr Haig dwelt fully on three points—allegations that the Soviet Union had mischievously tried to complicate Washington's task of freeing the American hostages from Iran, a warning to Moscow not to intervene in Poland, and a call for the Soviet Union to end its occupation of Afghanistan.

Adopting a "more in sorrow than in anger" tone, Mr Gromyko began his letter by stating that it could "only be regretted" that questions in Soviet-American relations deserving "priority attention" had, "judging by your (Mr Haig's) letter, not yet fallen within the scope of attention of the new Administration". Presumably he was thinking of disarmament talks and the like.

Mr Gromyko then went on to criticize point by point "certain specific questions touched upon in your letter".

On the Soviet attitude to the American hostages in Iran, he said that Mr Haig had "passed in silence" its early calls for their release and the Russian Government's condemnation of their capture.

On the Polish question, Mr Gromyko turned American *fears of Soviet intervention* round to accuse the West of such interference itself. He accused the Voice of America radio station of broadcasting "provocative and instigatory" transmissions to Poland.

Turning to Afghanistan, the Foreign Minister repeated Soviet calls for an end to foreign, allegedly western, military aid for the Afghan insurgents who are fighting the Soviet-backed authorities in Kabul.

Mr Gromyko's letter ended on a more conciliatory note. Confirming his "readiness for exchange of views on a wide range of issues", he said that he hoped "that subsequently a proper place will be accorded to the questions on which resolution the prospects of development of both Soviet-American and (the) international situation as a whole are primarily dependent".

Poles asked for 90-day break from strikes

From Dessa Trevisan
Warsaw, Feb 12

General Wojciech Jaruzelski, the new Polish Prime Minister, today called on Solidarity to give his Government three months of peace in which to sort out the most urgent problems.

He said the Government would use the time to engage in the broadest possible dialogue and was setting up a permanent commission for talks with the union. To reassure the union he appointed Mr Mieczyslaw Rakowski, a new Deputy Prime Minister, and hitherto editor of the weekly paper *Polityka*, who is known for his liberal views, to head the commission.

General Jaruzelski reshuffled the Cabinet. Two of the six Deputy Prime Ministers were dismissed. Six new members were brought into the Cabinet, including a new Minister of Agriculture.

Mr Mieczyslaw Jagielski, the first Deputy Prime Minister, who negotiated last summer's agreement in Gdansk and enjoys the confidence of the workers, has retained his post and has been charged with economic affairs.

The Prime Minister's call for cooperation seems to have met with a response as the Solidarity national committee, which met under the chairmanship of Mr Lech Walesa in Gdansk, indicated that while it might not commit itself yet, it was ready to resume the dialogue.

General Jaruzelski's call for a 90-day moratorium on strikes seems to have been accepted as Solidarity announced that no strikes were being envisaged to support the Rural Solidarity's demands for legalization.

A strike of printers in Warsaw planned for tomorrow was called off.

There are signs that under the Prime Ministership of a career soldier, who commands great national respect, things are beginning to move in the right direction.

General Jaruzelski has proclaimed a 10-point programme which promises to pay special attention to agriculture. He made it clear that he would try to reconcile demands for discipline and work with democratic openings towards all strata of society.

The Government, he said, would work for a socialist renewal, remove all people guilty of corruption and keep up high moral standards and honesty. He left no doubt that the Government would resort to its "constitutional prerogative" to defend the social and political values of Poland as a socialist state. The authorities, he said had enough power to bar the way to those who wanted to turn back the "wheel of history" to destroy socialism and endanger Poland's alliances.

The country was threatened with "economic chaos and fratricidal conflict". These words do not come easily, he said, but he was fully aware of their weight and bitterness.

On issues concerning national destiny one could not remain silent. Every citizen was responsible, everyone must ask what he could do and what he should do to check the course of events.

The Solidarity national commission is also examining a call on local branches to refrain from any strikes before consultation and approval by the national committee.

The students in Lodz, who have been occupying the University for the past three weeks, and who have presented the Government with a list of demands including one to cut military service from two years to three months, yesterday issued an appeal to other universities to refrain from any action until the weekend. They hope to have reached an agreement by then.

General Wojciech Jaruzelski, the new Polish Prime Minister, addressing the Warsaw parliament.

Russians step up 'kidnap' campaign

From Our Own Correspondent
Moscow, Feb 12

The Russians have intensified their protests and campaign against the decision of a Chicago court last year to grant political asylum to a 13-year-old Ukrainian boy, whose parents want him to return with them to the Soviet Union.

The case of the Polovchaks, the immigrant family whose son the Russians say has been "kidnapped" by the American authorities, is reported almost daily by the Tass news agency. On Wednesday night Soviet television broke into its main evening news bulletin to give the latest information on the legal wrangle.

Tass said yesterday that the family was being persecuted. The American authorities had *removed Vladimir (known in America as Walter) from his* parents' care to a secret location, and the parents were now being kept like hostages in Chicago.

According to Tass, Mr Mikhail Polovchak, the father, yesterday telephoned the Soviet consulate in Washington to report threats against his life, and say that his wife, the only family breadwinner, was threatened with dismissal from her job because of her poor English.

The Russians maintain that the postponement of the appeal hearing until next month showed that the American judicial bodies were deliberately slow where the rights of Soviet citizens in the United States were concerned.

Last month when the American hostages returned from Iran, Tass said the Polovchak family was being equally maltreated, and detained in America by force on the "ridiculous" pretext that a 12-year-old boy had abandoned his parents and brother "for the sake of political pluralism and free enterprise in the economic sphere". "All this could have evoked a smile were it not for the grief of the parents and the terrible fate of the child whose life is being crippled and who is being doomed to orphan*hood*," *Tass said.*

Alarm in New Zealand over disease at pig farm

By Hugh Clayton
Agriculture Correspondent

Blood samples were flown to a British laboratory yesterday after a disease of the vesicular type, which includes foot-and-mouth disease, had been found on a New Zealand pig farm.

Australia immediately banned all imports of meat and farm livestock from New Zealand. Mr Brian Talboys, New Zealand Deputy Prime Minister, said: "If this outbreak is of foot-and-mouth disease, it will change the history of New Zealand."

Police roadblocks were mounted round the farm near Temuka, South Island, as all 850 pigs there were slaughtered, burnt and buried. A quarantine ring was established up to 30 miles from the farm.

Meat accounts for nearly a third of the export earnings of New Zealand.

Dr R. F. Sellers, director of the Animal Virus Research Institute at Pirbright, Surrey, said that the sample was expected to arrive there today.

"It could be any of the vesicular diseases that affect pigs," he said. "It might not be anything at all."

Foot-and-mouth disease is one of *the most dangerous* and rapidly-spreading diseases of farm animals. It has been eradicated from Britain for the past 12 years.

Its symptoms in pigs are similar to those of the less serious swine vesicular disease. Already this year about 400 pigs have been slaughtered in northern England on government orders in an effort to contain the spread of swine vesicular disease.

Kremlin message expresses hope for firm line with Solidarity

From Michael Binyon
Moscow, Feb 12

President Brezhnev and Mr Nikolai Tikhonov, the Soviet Prime Minister, today sent congratulations to General Wojciech Jaruzelski, the new Polish Prime Minister, on his appointment, wishing him success in his "important activity" in strengthening the socialist gains of independent Poland.

The telegram of congratulation, a normal courtesy sent to all new heads of government by the Soviet leadership, was used to express the Kremlin's hope that the fourth Polish Prime Minister within a year would be able to bring the situation in Poland under control and take a firm line against what the Soviet press has called the attempts to undermine communism in Poland.

The Soviet leaders said they expressed their firm confidence that the "cooperation and friendship between the Soviet Union and the Polish People's Republic, based on the unbreakable principles of Marxism-Leninism and socialist internationalism, will develop and get stronger for the benefit of the peoples of our fraternal countries and the cohesion of the socialist community, in the interests of peace and security in Europe."

The references to the "socialist community" and to the interest of "fraternal countries" in Polish affairs are a clear restatement of the so-called Brezhnev doctrine that the position of communism in an East European country was the clear concern of all the fellow members of the Warsaw Pact block.

The Russians have not commented further on General Jaruzelski's appointment and are not expected to. But there are clear signs that they are hopeful he will be firmer than his predecessor in standing up to the demands of Solidarity.

Meanwhile the Russians have taken the unusual step of publishing the text here of a letter sent by Mr Gromyko, the Foreign Minister, to Mr Alexander Haig, the American Secretary of State, accusing the Americans of interfering in Poland's internal affairs and saying that no country, including both the United States and the Soviet Union, had the right to interfere in Poland's affairs.

He says there are a number of matters over which it was desirable that his country and the United States should exchange views. But Poland was not among them.

The letter cannot in itself be considered a sharpening of Soviet accusations against the Americans. What is significant is that the Russians have published the text both here and in Washington.

Normally the Russians are extremely punctilious in matters of diplomatic protocol and are reluctant to engage in diplomacy through the media. But they clearly were angered by leaks in Washington of Mr Haig's warnings to them over Poland and his earlier public accusations over Soviet behaviour around the globe.

Publication of the letter can therefore be taken as a sign that the Russians do not believe that open diplomacy is real diplomacy and that they now believe they have little hope of serious negotiation with the Americans and have nothing to lose by making public the text of their reply to Mr Haig.

Anxiety in Cabinet over tapping

By Our Political Editor

Mrs Thatcher yesterday aga*promised that the Governme* would deal "as expeditiou as possible" with any requ from the Canadian Governme to "patriate" the British Nor America Act. However she d clined to say whether the Government would "whip" h supporters to ensure rapid pr gress through the House.

In the Lords, Lord Carrin ton, the Foreign Secretar declined to comment on t *allegations of tapping confide* tial messages from the Canadi High Commission in London.

However senior cabinet mi sters do not hide their growi apprehension over the possi harm to Anglo-Canadi relations.

But the emerging entang ments make it likely that British Government will seen to be interfering in Ca dian affairs whether or not *does the Canadian Federal G* ernment's bidding.

As matters stand, minist retain a faint outside hope th Mr Pierre Trudeau, Canadi Prime Minister, will in the e call the whole thing off, a not submit a request for the plus a Bill of Rights charter

At a time when West unity is particularly import to the allies, ministers fear w they call a wholly gratuit *dispute with Canada.*

Reagan appointments bring trouble on far right

Washington Commentary

Patrick Brogan

There are two extreme views about Mr Ronald Reagan. The liberal one is that he is trying to turn the clock back to Calvin Coolidge, ruin the country the way Mrs Thatcher's obstinacy is ruining *Britain, and start the* Third World War. The conservatives think that he is a closet liberal, a pragmatist, surrounded by dangerous lefties who will let things run on the Carter manner, make Mrs Thatcher's mistake of insufficient firmness, and compromise with the Russians.

The first of these illusions need not detain us. This is what liberals would say, anyway. The second is much more important, because if a strong conservative opposition develops on the President's right he will find it difficult to get his programme through.

In the week of the inaugural, *Human Events*, one of the main conservative journals, headed its main story "bad week for conservatives". They objected strongly to two of Mr Reagan's appointments to his Cabinet, Mr Weinberger as Secretary of Defence (whom they suspected of being insufficiently anti-Russian) and Mr Donald Regan as Secretary of the Treasury (whom they suspect to be unsound on fiscal matters).

Senator Jesse Helms, the conscience of the far right, voted against Mr Weinberger's confirmation, joined by his sidekick. Senator John East, also from North Carolina. They cast their vote a few hours after Mr Reagan took his oath of office.

Mr Regan has been heard to express doubts that the federal budget can be balanced before 1984. The deficit this year will be about $80,000m and it is wildly unreasonable to suppose that it can be eliminated quickly. It is true that Mr Carter's last budget included projections for the next few years, showing the deficit vanishing, but he did that with mirrors.

The first piece of legislation President Reagan requested was an increase in the National Debt ceiling. The Government would have come to an abrupt halt in mid-February if the measure had been rejected but a number of conservatives voted against it, all the same.

They were playing to the gallery, of course, but the gesture showed their economic frivolity. By the same token, the reception given to the budget cuts proposed by the President shows the shallowness of the economic arguments in Congress. Cutting the budget by five per cent (Mr Reagan's optimistic target) is not really going to balance the budget in three years, let alone change the course of American history.

The trouble with these extreme conservatives is that their motive force is social policy. They raise their money and get their votes by opposing *abortion and busing, by advo*cating prayer in school and purging public libraries of immoral works, and by insisting that schools should teach the Book of Genesis's account of the creation on a par with modern science.

These are all matters that people believe in passionately but they are not central issues in America's present predicament. Those central issues are the ineluctable decline in its influence in the world, the fall in relative productivity, inflation, and the sclerosis of political institutions here.

Now there are people, loosely to be defined as conservatives who refuse to waste their time on agitating against abortion, and face up to the real problems, Vice-President Bush, for instance, talked sense on foreign affairs when he was running for the presidential nomination, and Mr Haig at least knows what he is doing.

Indeed, Mr Haig's competence is demonstrated in the way he fought off attempts by Senator Helms to take over the State Department, and establish himself as the sole director of foreign policy: Mr Helms's candidates for higher office in the department were briskly turned down, except for one, Mr *Ernest Lefever.*

He was put in charge of the Office on Human Rights, with instructions to close it down. He will be harmlessly employed doing so while the Secretary gets on with the real business *of the world.* The Deputy Secretary, Mr William Clark of California, who does not know the name of the Prime Minister of Zimbabwe, will not cause Mr Haig much trouble either.

Mr Haig knows that foreign policy in the 1980s cannot be based, like that of the 50s, on supporting right-wing dictators everywhere. For one thing, there are not many of them left. Mr Helms believes that Africa is "*lost*", apart *from* South Africa, but serious policy cannot really be based on such a theory.

Conservatives of Senator Helms's stripe do not have a coherent economic or foreign policy. Once Mr Haig starts dealing with the Russians (and unless they invade Poland, he will do so, inevitably), the right will be unhappy. Once they realize that the President's economic policy is not nearly so revolutionary as it is billed, they will start to fret about that.

It is all very sad. They had, at last, the perfect candidate and they elected him President. If he now proves to be just another centrist politician, and ignores them, it will be the greatest disappointment since the Directorate invited General *Bonaparte to help them keep the mob in line.*

Development corporation supports 50 projects

Commonwealth helps Caribbean

This is the last in a series of four articles examining the work of the Commonwealth Development Corporation.

By Charles Douglas-Home

The total commitments of the Commonwealth Development Corporation (CDC) in the Caribbean region amount to £51m spread through 14 countries and nearly 50 individual projects.

The CDC regional office is in Barbados and there are projects in hand in Belize, Honduras, Antigua, Costa Rica, Dominica, Granada, Guyana, Jamaica, Montserrat, St Kitts, St Lucia, St Vincent, Trinidad and Tobago.

When the CDC first started to operate in the Caribbean it was faced with the difficulty of finding adequate resources to be developed. Tourism seemed to be the obvious choice to make use of the region's basic endowment of climate. The CDC therefore initiated several investments in tourist complexes, though some of those have now been shed as the growth of tourism has increased.

The second basic development was to provide electricity and housing for the peoples on the islands. The CDC became sole shareholder in seven or eight electricity supply companies, providing both funds and expertise to create proper grids, where before there had been only rudimentary power systems run by the local public works departments.

Now the CDC is seeking to divest itself of many of those shareholdings but the local governments are reluctant to buy out the CDC because they might then be solely responsible for keeping electricity charges in line with costs.

In the housing field the CDC set up joint organizations with governments to provide housing finance for lower middle income groups, first on the islands and now both in Honduras and Costa Rica. Finance for such long term projects would have been elusive but the CDC was able to influence both the cost of the houses and the cost of mortgages by insisting on modifications to the programme before it granted contracts to builders.

Having set up those schemes for basic development, the CDC has been searching more widely for agricultural opportunities. In St Lucia a model farm has been set up and the company intends to purchase large banana estates on which some 200 smallholders will be settled growing bananas, citrus and other crops in a smallholder scheme which has been successfully applied by the CDC all round the world. There are also plans to take over sugar estates on the same basis and operate them like those in Swaziland.

Although other agencies operate in the Caribbean, economic conditions are tenuous for all the islands there except in Jamaica. Trinidad and Guyana on the mainland. The rest will find it hard to develop economically far from a quasi-subsistence future, where basic needs such as food, housing and power are met, but communications make it hard to operate successfully with export-based industry.

In this environment the CDC feels that it has a vital role to play compensating for the absence of genuine commercial funds looking for profitable investments. However, even in the Caribbean the CDC is *obliged to produce a return on* its investment; and does so.

British chemist found dead at US laboratory

From Ivor Davis
San Francisco, Feb 12

Professor Franz Sondheil the chemist, took his own yesterday at Stanford Uni sity, police said. Dr Sondheil who was 54, was a visi professor from University lege London. He was found the Stauffer laboratory on campus in Palo Alto, slum over his desk.

Near by was a note to wife and a cup that police contained cyanide. Emerge medical treatment was gi without success. Dr Sondheil was pronounced dead at S *ford Hospital.*

Friends said he had suffe bouts of depression for s time.

Dr Sondheimer, a native Stuttgart and a natural British citizen, was involve the development of synth cortisone at Harvard Univer

Third World topics head agenda

From Douglas Aiton
Melbourne, Feb 12

Mr Malcolm Fraser, the Australian Prime Minister, has made it clear that the emphasis at this year's Commonwealth heads of government meeting to be held in Australia in September will be on the problems of the Third World.

Leaders from black Africa, Asia and Pacific countries will form the majority of those who will gather in Melbourne for the conference.

Mr Fraser's speech in Adelaide this week set out both his philosophy and his hopes for Australia's role in the international North-South dialogue. The needs of the developing countries have been a consistent priority in the Fraser administration's foreign policy.

In his speech to the Commonwealth Club in Adelaide, Mr Fraser suggested that the main industrialized countries should substantially assist the developing world, not primarily for moral reasons but in a spirit of "enlightened self-interest". *He said that this self-interest* was economic, political and strategic.

"These governments should work energetically to solve the problems of North-South relations because if they do they will benefit and if they do not their interests will suffer very seriously. That is where the most compelling motivation is to be found", he said.

"Political self-interest also requires preventing the intensification of an adversary relationship between the developed Western countries and the Third World.

"Again, strategic self-interest requires avoiding a situation of chaos, breakdown and violence which invites exploitation by the Soviet Union and its clients or which creates regional conflicts inimical to international peace and stability." (as usual, in any speech on international affairs, Mr Fraser made reference to his own concern over Soviet expansionism).

In considering what should be done to assist under-developed countries, Mr Fraser distinguished between structural changes in the international order, which he said would rely on the initiative of the largest and most powerful industrialized countries, and more modest help to solve "urgent practical problems" in areas such as health, food, education and technical assistance.

He said that Australia did not intend to "wait passively" *for the big industrial powers* to give a lead. "The fact that we can have comparatively little effect on the progress of the main issues is no reason for neglecting to do what is within our means."

It would be easy to dismiss Mr Fraser's approach as avoiding a real involvement for Australia and offering some material help without becoming involved in any action in areas which could hurt Australia

But Mr Fraser has been consistent in his attitude to Third World aid. The role he played in the Zimbabwe settlement showed he was willing to take political risks for a cause which was only indirectly relevant to Australia.

The Government is working on fresh initiatives Australia might take on North-South issues which are, again, apparently high on the 1981 international agenda.

Mr Fraser is eager to attend the planned June meeting in Mexico which will discuss the report on North-South issues prepared by the Brandt Commission, but so far he has not been invited.

In the Adelaide speech, Mr Fraser praised the Brandt report despite such recommendations as an international tax, which the Australian Government probably would not support. Mr Fraser said the report had much to say "of great value" about issues, energy, health and education.

But for the moment it is the September Commonwealth conference that has Mr Fraser's keen attention. He is aware that his stands on race, apartheid and Zimbabwe gave him a good reputation among Third World Commonwealth leaders at the 1977 and 1979 conferences. Now he will be seeking to further develop that reputation while acting as host.

Arson suspect held: A hotel worker, aged 23, has been ar*rested on suspicion of starting* the Las Vegas Hilton hotel fire which killed eight people, police said yesterday.

Police said that Mr Philip Cline, a room service waiter at the hotel, was the first person to discover the fire on Tuesday night. He was questioned then and yesterday by detectives and arson investigators.

Mr Cline has been charged *with eight counts of murder and* one of arson in connexion with the fire. He is being held in solitary confinement at the Clark County Jail pending arraignment.

Like the MGM Grand Hotel, which is still closed because of a fire last November that killed 84 people, the Hilton hotel had no sprinklers in the rooms.—Reuter and UPI.

Prague rebuked for assault on attaché

By David Spanier
Diplomatic Correspondent

Britain has made a strong protest to the Czechoslovak Government over an incident in which police used tear gas against a British diplomat in Prague, forcibly removed him from his car and smashed a window.

Wing Commander Oliver *Knight, the air attaché,* was driving with a Canadian colleague near the town of Tabor on February 4, when the police intervened. He was engaged in his normal touring duties, for which special clearance is not required.

The Czechs' initial response to the British protest has not *been encouraging, it is* understood.

There have, in fact, been similar incidents of surveillance and harassment of Western service personnel recently.

The British Ambassador in Prague protested the day after the assault on the air attaché.

Afghan minister justifies Soviet occupation

From Trevor Fishlock
Delhi, Feb 12

Mr Shah Mohammad Dost, the Foreign Minister of Afghanistan, tonight justified the Soviet occupation of his country as part of the revolutionary process assisting Afghans in their emergence from a feudal and backward environment.

The Soviet troops, "a limited *contingent of which we invited* in because there was a threat to our independence," would leave Afghanistan as soon as there was stability, he told a press conference in Delhi.

Soviet soldiers were not interfering in the internal affairs of Afghanistan. "They are trying to help the Afghan Army and people to ward off threats from bandits and from abroad."

He could not say how many Soviet troops there were in his country; only that there were less than the 80,000 usually quoted by Western sources. He also did not know exactly how many Soviet advisers were working in the Kabul regime's administration.

Mr Dost was addressing the press during the conference of *foreign ministers of non-aligned* countries. It was an unusual event because leading figures in the government of President Babrak Karmal rarely make themselves available for questions, particularly from the Western press, and very few journalists are allowed to visit Afghanistan.

The Afghan delegation to the conference has tried and failed to delete a reference to Afghanistan in the joint declaration. Mr Dost expressed his disappointment that the declaration will probably include a call, inserted at the insistence of Pakistan and others, for the withdrawal of Soviet forces from Afghanistan.

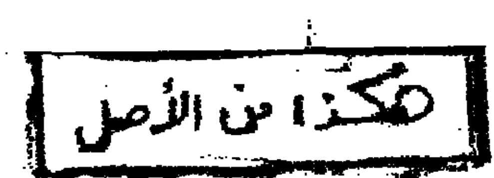
In a speech to the conference today, he said: "No danger arises from internal developments in Afghanistan to peace and security of the region and the world.

"The limited military contingent of the Soviet Union was invited, in conformity with the present valid treaty and article 51 of the United Nations Charter, because Afghanistan had become a victim of aggressive acts and other form interference from abroad.

"As soon as agreem between the Afghan Gov ment and neighbouring c tries are reached there appear conditions for comp political normalization, inc ing withdrawal of Soviet tr

"It is not our fault that s of our neighbours try their to hinder a *constructive* tion to the existing probl Their actions are obviously free from outside influe Thus those who demand drawal of Soviet troops everything to delay the outc by all possible means."

Mr Dost told his press con ence that Afghanistan returning to normality stability.



OVERSEAS

Turkey is prepared to withdraw from the Council of Europe

From Mario Modiano
Ankara, Feb 12

The threat to expel Turkey from the Council of Europe is seen by the Ankara military régime as *unjust and unfair*, yet quite understandable. So understandable, in fact, that Turkey may soon pull out voluntarily from the European Parliamentary Assembly.

Mr Ilter Turkmen, the weathered career diplomat who took over as the régime's Foreign Minister, said: "The Council of Europe consists of freely and democratically elected governments which have an intrinsic stake in the return of parliamentary democracy in Turkey. We understand their concern."

The régime had told the Council of Europe of its "unshakable commitment" to ensure a speedy return to a parliamentary system in Turkey, but "there is sometimes in Strasbourg a lack of perception about what kind of activity would really promote democracy in Turkey, and which kind would be counter-productive", he said.

The truth is that the Turks do not like to be pushed. When they are, they tend to cut off their nose to spite their face. In the words of a western diplomat: "They are sensitive to rude things being said about them; but quite insensitive to the views expressed by outsiders as to what they must do."

The Foreign Minister told *The Times*: "We Turks have no doubt whatever that the military will restore democracy—a more genuine and effective democracy than hitherto—and go. But we find the concern of the Europeans quite legitimate. In fact, we welcome it."

European Assembly members were disturbed by events in Turkey for a variety of reasons, he said. "Some are motivated by ideology, others by domestic politics. Still others want to please their constituents, and there are those who seize the chance to propel themselves into the limelight by posturing as defenders of democracy.

"We respect all these motives, and we are not criticizing them. But if they came to Turkey, they would have a better chance to understand the real position."

The Turkish Government seems to be relying on the inevitable delays—inherent in any such move by the Council of Europe to expel a member—to gain time until its ruling generals can announce their timetable for elections, probably next year.

But after May, Turkey is likely to withdraw from the Consultative Assembly. By then the term for which its 12 parliamentary representatives had been elected in 1977 will have legally expired.

The Turkish régime takes a fairly sanguine view of relations with Western Europe on whom this country relies to sustain its plans for economic stability. Could the political situation affect the flow of western loans?

"There is nothing to indicate that this change of government has affected negatively the opportunities for obtaining these funds", Mr Turkmen said. Turkey hopes to receive £625m credit this year.

However, Germany—Turkey's closest friend in Europe — is already showing reluctance to coordinate international aid this year. In Ankara, this is attributed to the fact that Herr Hans Matthöfer, the Federal Finance Minister, is facing strong opposition from left-wing critics.

The Turkish Foreign Minister rejects any political motivation for Germany's reticence, and attributes it to the economic recession in that country. "I am confident, however", he added, "That Germany will, once again this year, take a direct interest in promoting greater aid to Turkey".

The Turkish régime, of course, now counts on greater support from the United States, not only because of the defence-oriented Republican Administration in Washington, but mainly because of the crisis in the Gulf and the Middle East, which enhance Turkey's strategic potential.

Mr Turkmen said Ankara was seriously concerned by the situation in Afghanistan, and particularly by the Iran-Iraq war.

The fear that Asian destabilization might spill over into Turkey's sensitive south-eastern provinces, is inducing the country to seek new allies among Islamic countries.

The military régime, in fact, looks to the more moderate Muslim nations, such as Saudi Arabia and the Gulf states, not only as stabilizing factors in the Middle Eastern medley, but also as potential sources of oil and loans.

In this sense, and despite the inherent contradiction of Turkey's secularism and alignment, Islam is an ideal fall-back position for the régime if the Europeans become too tough, and one that could hardly displease the Americans.

This readjustment, however, does not mean that the Turkish government will increase their defensive commitment to the West. Particularly if such an enhanced role could cause misunderstandings among Ankara's Muslim friends.

The Foreign Minister said: "The crisis in this region does not change things. There is nothing in the North Atlantic Treaty that burdens Turkey with commitments outside the Nato area."

Asked if, in case of a blockade of the vital oil route from the Gulf, which would inevitably harm Nato's defence potential, Turkey would not feel involved, Mr Turkmen said: "It certainly would involve Turkey.

"But it will also involve the countries of the area. Now, if they take the view—as they clearly stated it in the Taif (Islamic Conference) summit—that the defence of the area is their own responsibility, we can hardly ignore this."

He concluded: "We have a very unstable situation in this area. So far the super-powers have observed a certain neutrality. But how long will this continue?"

East Africa accord on cooperation

From Charles Harrison
Nairobi, Feb 12

Kenyan and Tanzanian delegations have met in Nairobi to discuss border security measures, and have agreed on closer consultation and cooperation to end cattle rustling and attacks on tourists.

Mr Charles Njonjo, the Kenyan Minister for Constitutional and Home Affairs, and Mr Muhiddin Kimario, the Tanzanian Minister of Home Affairs, led the two teams. The talks come after last month's summit meeting in Kampala, attended by the Presidents of Kenya, Tanzania, Uganda and Zambia.

Kenya has protested strongly against attacks on tourists in border areas by armed gangs from Tanzania. Last December Kenyan police killed 22 Tanzanians in a shoot-out with a large gang of cattle rustlers.

The border between the two countries was closed by Tanzania four years ago, shortly before the East African Community collapsed. Kenya would like to see the border reopened, but this was not discussed at this week's meeting. Tanzania insists that the division of assets and *liabilities* of the defunct Community must first be agreed, and only limited progress has so far been made on this complex issue.

Boat people accused of piracy

Bangkok, Feb 12.—Thailand is accusing 19 Vietnamese refugees of piracy, claiming that they captured a Thai fishing trawler and killed five of the crew in the Gulf of Thailand last December.

"I have just finished questioning the suspects", Major Prayoon Sitthirattanakum of the police said in a telephone conversation yesterday. "They will be brought to trial."

The Vietnamese, he said, will be arraigned before a civilian criminal court in Nakhon Sithammarat, 370 miles south of Bangkok. They face charges of assault causing death and stealing goods on the high seas. Conviction could mean the death sentence.

Western observers in Nakhon Sithammarat province said the Vietnamese will try to launch countercharges against the Thais.

With $2m (about £830,000) of American support, Thailand last week started a training programme for Thai fishermen designed to teach them to defend themselves against the "boat people".

Thai authorities say five of their trawlers have been attacked by Vietnamese refugees wielding knives and American M16 rifles since December.—UPI.

Buenos Aires angered by Chilean naval activity

From Andrew McLeod
Buenos Aires, Feb 12

Tension between Argentina and Chile in their dispute over sovereignty of three islands in the Beagle Channel has mounted with Argentine reports of a Chilean missile carrier secretly entering Argentine waters.

In a statement issued last night, the Argentine Foreign Ministry said Argentine had maintained the principle of freedom of navigation in jurisdiction waters and international straits. Chile, however, failed to follow the usual courtesy procedure of reporting the presence of its vessels in Argentine waters.

This, the ministry said, was "prudent" in view of the negotiations between the two countries over the Beagle Channel islands.

Santiago has denied that the Chilean vessel failed to report its presence.

In another incident, the Greek cruise ship, Navarino, was alleged to have been intimidated by a Chilean gunboat off Cape Horn last Friday. According to news reports, the Navarino was ordered to run up the Chilean colours.

Mr Vassilis Vitsaxis, the Greek Ambassador to Argentina and also to Chile, who was a passenger on board the Navarino, said a Chilean naval unit approached within 100 yards of the cruise ship, but he declined to comment on reports that the Navarino, under intimidation, had been forced to run up the Chilean colours. "I saw what everybody else saw", he said.

FOREIGN REPORT

Chief Justice Warren Burger says street crime is imposing "a reign of terror" on American cities. "Like it or not we are approaching the status of an impotent society whose capability of maintaining elementary security on the streets, in the schools, and for the homes of our people is in doubt." The concerns he voiced are probably nowhere more deeply felt than in Los Angeles. Ivor Davis reports:

Lieutenant Earl Rice, chief detective in one of Los Angeles's worst crime area, drinks his coffee black and does not mince his words: "There's more chance of dying by murder down here than by accident or natural death".

His territory covers only 10 square miles and takes in a population of 107,000, mostly black and Mexican Americans in south Los Angeles.

Lately, the increase in violent crimes has shocked residents in this city of three million people. Mr Daryl Gates, the police chief, confirmed these fears last month by announcing that 1,021 people were murdered in the City of the Angels in 1980, an increase of 27 per cent over 1979.

But at Lieutenant Rice's bureau they view the sudden hysteria over the rocketing murder rate with some cynicism.

"Every weekend here people are routinely murdered in the streets and nobody takes any notice", Detective Bob Reynolds, of the homicide squad notes. "Rapes and murders are considered part of the lifestyle. There is a big double standard operating. The same homicides we have here daily are now appearing in west Los Angeles (a predominantly white, affluent area), he says.

South-east police headquarters is a red and grey brick fortress in the street of the black ghetto that resembles the aftermath of an air raid. Shops are boarded up, rubble strewn on empty lots, graffiti on walls, houses abandoned. Compared to the manicured tidiness of the rest of the city this is a wasteland. There are few people on the streets.

A recent *Los Angeles Times* poll reported that residents all over the city are worried more about crime than people in other American cities. "They have an inordinate fear of it that cuts across socio-economic boundaries.

Yet the poll noted that few homes had actually been touched. No so in the south-central section, which is a ghetto in the real sense of the word. The only way out is by private car or an inadequate bus system. Unemployment hovers around 20 per cent; there are few local jobs because industry is loath to open new plants.

The jobless—and 40 per cent of the area's young blacks are out of work—aimlessly hang around the local housing estates or join street gangs. Schools do not attract top flight teachers and as a result the quality of education suffers.

Many residents live from welfare money and, in fact, police note that robberies increase on the first and fifteenth of each month, on "Mother's Day" as they bitterly term the welfare pay-days.

When Los Angeles's much publicized 300-man crime task force moved into the ghetto for several days, they made 558 arrests but mostly on minor offences.

"Most of the heavy guys just cooled it until the heat was off", one observer of the crime scene remarked.

I spent a couple of days recently with the division's murder squad. Detective Jim Dieli is one of the eight-man homicide force trying to catch up with the backlog of murders. He has only been in the division a year but already has a caseload of 16 unsolved murders.



In a Los Angeles bank a gunman already lies dead after an exchange of fire with the police. The siege began after he had taken 16 hostages. A miniature armoured car is called up, one more weapon in the fight against crime.

"We need twice the number of detectives to even make a dent in the cases", he says.

The station is a self-contained island of refuge. When officers leave they usually do so in twos and get into their cars immediately. They bring sandwiches for lunch to eat at their desks and seldom venture out to neighbourhood restaurants.

Outside it is considered a war zone and the police appear battle-scarred and weary. The fatigue shows on their faces. They are remarkably frank and many are disgusted by the conditions they have to work under.

During the two days I spent with the detectives the pace was hectic. It was sheer murder and mayhem, with little sleuthing required. The count for 1981 stood at 11 murders in less than four weeks—a 57 per cent increase over the same period last year.

A wife shot her husband after he threatened her with a knife. A shopkeeper (whose husband had been killed a few years earlier by an armed robber) was confronted by three armed teenagers. She beat them to the draw and pumped a bullet into one of them. The robbers fled dragging their bleeding companion to a car and then dumped the youth at the front door of the local hospital. He was dead before he reached the emergency ward.

The homicide detectives reserve some of their bitterest words for the court system.

"We used to kick the door down if we thought a suspect was hiding and take him in", says Detective Reynolds, who has spent most of his 20 years working in homicide. "Not any more. Now we need a search warrant and that takes five hours to get. By that time he's long gone. And even if you do make an arrest by the time you get him to the DA (district attorney) it's the policeman who ends up on the hot seat. You get the third-degree like you're on trial.

"Whenever there's a gang shooting they want witnesses—so we get a guy who talks to us. We arrest a suspect and then the DA decides there is not enough evidence to hold him. Less than 24 hours later he is back on the streets and our witness is running scared. Try explaining a judicial decision like that to some kid in the ghetto who's terrified for his life."

They blame "soft" judges for the mounting street crime and complain that tough young street gang hoodlums are shipped off to holiday camp-like farms and released on parole too quickly.

They would like to see San Quentin's gas chamber back in business. "These people are not dummies", remarks Detective Reynolds, "all a murder suspect has to say is 'I dropped some pills', or 'I was drinking' and it's diminished capacity. He gets at worst seven years for murder—and in three he is paroled."

Some detectives bemoan decaying morality and falling social standards and feel they are fighting a losing battle. And they scoff at the police department's million dollar advertising campaign to refurbish the policeman's image.

To some, the troubles of the south-east division policemen might seem to have little to do with the rest of Los Angeles, being a function of a totally alien world. But more and more demarcation lines between the wastelands and the heart of one of the most affluent cities in the world is being blurred.

Ask those policemen in the division and they will tell you that the problems are nation-wide: Crime is out of control, they say, and they look to what they perceive as a tough new conservative President to do something about it.

Saudi weapons deal presents moral dilemma for Bonn

West Germany, tempted by the prospect of a huge weapons deal with Saudi Arabia, is engaged in an agonizing debate over the ethics of arms exports.

A request of such magnitude from the biggest, richest and strategically most important oil producer would have created few problems for other Western countries. But it has plunged the West Germans into a painful conflict of interests, loyalties and principles.

Strong resistance, particularly in the Social Democratic Party (SPD) has added to the strains in the SPD-Free Democrat coalition and may yet wreck the deal. Objections have been raised in many quarters, including both the Roman Catholic and Protestant Churches and the trade unions, to any relaxing of West Germany's restrictions on arms exports.

The problem arose when Herr Helmut Schmidt, the Chancellor, was approached by Saudi leaders with a request—not an order—for West Germany's most sophisticated and sought after weapons. They reportedly wanted more than 300 of the new and as yet unsurpassed Leopard II tanks, Gepard anti-aircraft tanks, Marder combat vehicles and other weapons.

The advantages to West Germany of such a deal, politically, economically and strategically, are enormous. But the Government's self-imposed rules stand in the way.

Ten years ago the cabinet agreed to ban all exports of arms to "areas of tension". Exports to other non-Nato and non-Western countries could be permitted only if there were "special considerations". Memories of the war were still vivid and the Government was not inclined to let Germany become a big arms producer again.

Now, Herr Schmidt argues, it is time the rules were revised. Experience has shown, he told the Bundestag, that it is difficult to define an "area of tension".

Moreover, international cooperation on arms development is undermining the rules. A weapon produced with, say, France, can be freely sold by other partners.

The Chancellor insists that arms exports should still be firmly restricted. But he would like the basic consideration to be what is in the national interest.

He has made it clear that he feels the Saudi deal is very much in the national interest. Saudi Arabia is the world's and Germany's biggest oil supplier and creditor. Such a deal could help redress the huge balance of trade with Riyadh.

Whether or not it is in an area of tension—Herr Hans Dietrich Genscher, the Foreign Minister, argues that it is not—the deal is a "prime factor for stability" in the Gulf area and should be supported, Herr Schmidt says.

West Germany has already decided it cannot, on principle, send soldiers or warships to the Gulf. But West German weapons could be an important contribution to a general Western effort to preserve stability in the area.

The Government has started looking at ways of changing the rules. There is no hurry, the Chancellor says. Apart from the work involved, he appears to want time to let emotions cool and his arguments sink in.

But he will not easily get his way. Not only is his party's much-enlarged left-wing against it—they oppose arms exports on principle—but the right-wing is also alarmed at a deal which could ultimately damage Israel. There is also opposition in the ranks of the Free Democrats.

For the issue touches on another sensitive area from Germany's past—the moral obligations towards Israel. As Mr Menachem Begin, the Israeli Prime Minister, put it, after what happened to the Jews in the Third Reich it was "inconceivable" that Germans should now sell deadly weapons to enemies of the Jewish state.

Mr Shimon Peres, the leader of the Israeli Labour Party, has said that if Bonn sells weapons to Saudi Arabia, Israel will ask for them too. His remarks underlined another worry of the deal's opponents—that if West Germany exports arms to one side in a tense situation it could be obliged to do the same to the other. The concept of "national interest" could get very widely stretched.

If the Government gave its permission the arms industry could make a financial killing. German weapons are among the best in the world, and foreign governments are pressing for tanks, ships and guns which they admire but often cannot have.

Patricia Clough

President Reagan sets out to woo the wary Mexicans

Mexicans, traditionally suspicious of "big brother" across their northern frontier, were nevertheless guardedly impressed when President-elect Ronald Reagan made their country his first foreign port of call after his election.

The fact that Mr Reagan sought the meeting at that particular time, in spite of his expressed unwillingness to meet other foreign leaders before he moved into the White House, was clearly intended to demonstrate his recognition of Mexico's growing importance, economic and political.

The United States and Mexico have long suffered all the stresses of an unhappy marriage. Economically, they are inextricably bound together, for the United States takes no less than two-thirds of Mexico's total exports. This dependence has long jarred on Mexican sensibilities.

Washington has not been particularly successful in appreciating this sensitivity in the past but the need to create a new relationship has now become an important object of American policy. Not only does the United States want more Mexican oil, it recognizes the increasing influence in international affairs that the oil has bestowed on President Lopez Portillo and his Government.

Mr Reagan has sought to establish a personal rapport with President Portillo. He is thought to have tried to allay Mexcan fears that Washington's anti-communist stance might conflict with Mexico's growing role in regional and foreign affairs.

Mexicans were concerned by the recent declaration of the United Nations representative-designate, Mrs Jeanne Kirkpatrick, that a new United States-Latin American policy should be developed to resist communism in the face of Cuban and Nicaraguan "expansionism". She saw Mexico as constituting an inviting target.

That is far too partisan an approach to suit Mexico's ruling political group, the Institutional Revolutionary Party (PRI). The PRI, although its name has changed during the period, has been constantly in power since 1926. In every six-year election it has been returned with big majorities, partly due to alleged ballot rigging and partly due to restrictions on all sorts of opposition activity.

Both in domestic and foreign policies, the PRI has developed a mixture of socialist and capitalist concepts. The economy, too, is mixed and the oil industry is nationalized. Foreign policy has, on the whole, been "leftist" and "open" and non-interventionist in its relations with friendly states.

Mexico broke off diplomatic relations with Spain after Franco took power and resumed them only in 1977. Similarly, when all Latin-American states broke off relations with Dr Castro's Cuba, Mexico maintained them. At the same time, Mexico is helping Nicaragua and El Salvador with oil and equipment to avoid their total dependence on Cuba and, ultimately, the Soviet Union.

Mexico has no liking for the constraints of membership of international blocks. It does not even belong to Opec, preferring to pursue independent policies on oil exports which permit it, for example to be the main supplier to Israel. Nor is it a member of the non-aligned nations, although it regards itself as truly non-aligned. More than anything else, it is resistant to the idea of joining a North American block which Mexico believes would inevitably be dominated by the United States.

For that reason, the Mexican response to the Reagan trial balloon of a North American common market was cool. A better policy, the Mexicans believe, is to diversify their customers; for which reason the have not permitted the oil-hungry United States to buy more than 70 per cent of their exports.

President Portillo has presided over unprecedented economic growth during his four years in office. He was elected at a time of economic crisis — low investment, high unemployment and massive devaluation. He has restored growth and has controlled the economy in spite of world recession and explosive demographic growth at home.

In the last 10 years, the population grew by no less than 19 million to its present total of 67.4 million. The lot of all income groups has improved but the spectacular growth has been for the top 10 per cent; the rich have become far richer while the improvement for the poor has been relatively small.

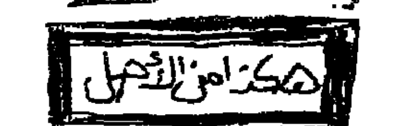
On the other hand, the boom economy has brought new inflation, now standing unofficially at 35 per cent. Unemployment, which is officially quoted as 30 per cent, is thought to range between 40-50 per cent — and there are no unemployment benefits in Mexico's social security system. The unemployed — mostly the young — live on their families, by selling lottery tickets, or by working as shoe-shine boys; or they emigrate illegally into the United States, providing another bone of contention with "big brother."

In such a situation, it is remarkable that the Communist Party (PMC) is not more powerful than it is. The party—like the five other minority political parties—is limited in its parliamentary representation by the dominance of the PRI. But although the Communists are quantitatively insignificant, their party is influential in Mexican national life. It is a well organized group attracting a sizeable number of the intelligentsia; it is powerful in some minority trade unions; and its published literature presents ideas and criticism which are reflected in the daily press. As part of its policy of "balance", President Portillo's PRI does not ignore the communists and frequently enters into "dialogue" with them.

An oil-rich state, yet with widespread poverty and endemic corruption from top to bottom of the political system, Mexico is stable only by comparison with the volatility of its southern neighbours. Such stability as it does possess owes much to the powers of the President. For the six years he holds office (he is not permitted a second term), the President of Mexico moves into a position of supreme authority without any of the checks and balances of the United States constitution.

President Lopez Portillo, a former professor of international law, has grown in stature, sophistication and authority. During his last two years of office, he is likely to prove a cooperative, albeit wary, colleague for President Reagan.

William Frankel



PARLIAMENT, February 12, 1981

Mr Paisley named by Speaker and then suspended for calling Ulster Secretary a liar

House of Commons

The Rev Ian Paisley (North Antrim, Dem U) was suspended from the service of the House after refusing an order from the Speaker to withdraw a remark describing **Mr Humphrey Atkins**, the Secretary of State for Northern Ireland, as a liar.

The incident occurred during questions on the security situation in Northern Ireland. **Mr Paisley** had asked Mr Atkins: Would the Secretary of State care to confirm or deny that the army patrol that was to observe Tynan Abbey the night of the atrocious murder of *Sir Norman Stronge and his son* James was being wined and dined at a wellknown Republican house in the area?

Would he confirm or deny that the helicopter that came to the assistance of the RUC ran out of fuel and had to return to base?

Would he tell us what action has been taken against the officer who was responsible for the patrol not being in position on the night of that terrible incident?

Mr Atkins (Spelthorne, C): I never give details in this House of the security forces operations as he knows. I cannot understand why he thinks it is in the interests of anybody to make charges like this. (Cheers.)

Mr Paisley: It's a cover-up. (Interruptions.)

Mr Gerard Fitt (Belfast, West, Soc): Mr Paisley has just called Mr Atkins a liar.

Mr Paisley: So he is.

The Speaker (Mr George Thomas): Did the honourable gentleman make that statement?

Mr Paisley: Yes. I made that statment for it is true. (Protests.)

Mr Peter Robinson (Belfast, East, Dem U): He is a liar.

The Speaker: Mr Paisley knows he must withdraw the remark at once.

Mr Paisley: I have no intention of withdrawing the truth. (Protests.)

The Speaker: I name the Rev Ian Paisley for gross discourtesy to the Chair. I call upon the *minister* to move the appropriate motion.

Mr Robinson: He is telling the truth. The Secretary of State is a liar.

Mr Michael Jopling, Parliamentary Secretary to the Treasury and Government Chief Whip: I beg to move that Mr Paisley be suspended from *the service of the House.*

The Speaker put the question that Mr Paisley be suspended from the servies of the House.

There was a loud cry of "Aye" from all parts of the House. Mr Paisley and Mr Robinson cried "No".

A *division* was called but when Mr Robinson was shown to be the only teller for the Noes, it was called off and the Speaker declared the motion carried.

The Speaker: I instruct the hon member to leave the chamber.

Mr Paisley immediately did so.

In the questions leading up to the incident Mr Atkins said that since he last answered questions in the House nine people had died as a result of terrorist violence. Since the lull at the time of the prison hunger strike, terrorist organizations had clearly renewed their activities but they had continued to *suffer reverses.*

Neither I nor the security forces (*Mr Atkins said*) can be satisfied so long as anybody is killed or injured by terrorist violence. But it is a fact that the level of violence so far this year is lower than it was this time last year. This confirms me in *my* conviction that the course on which the security forces *are set is the right* one.

The Chief Constable and the GOC are satisfied that they have sufficient resources on the ground.

I know that they will not be distracted from their tasks by danger or provocation and I call on all people *of goodwill in* Northern Ireland to give them full support.

Mr John Biggs-Davison (Epping Forest, C): Is there evidence since the Dublin summit and the murders to which he has referred, that more is really being done by the Republic to secure its side of the *frontier from terrorist activity and* also to speed the surrender to justice of the terrorists there harboured?

Mr Atkins: Today the Chief Constable and the GOC advise me that the cooperation they are receiving in cross-border security activities from the Republic is increasing all the time.

Mr James Molyneaux (South Antrim, Off UU): Will he give an assurance that any measures designed to eliminate killer gangs in the greater Belfast area will not result in any weakening of the defence of the frontier and that everything possible will be done to increase security in both spheres?

Mr Atkins: Yes. We are conscious of the need to maintain a high level of security force presence in border areas. Both the Chief Constable and the GOC have this much in mind.

***Mr John Dunlop** (Mid Ulster,* UUUP): Since the RUC were successful on ramming one of the escape vehicles at the murder of Sir Norman Stronge and his son how *many* rounds of ammunition were fired by the RUC and how many by the terrorists? Was the *second* police car engaged in the attack as well? *This is an important aspect of this* monstrous and savage crime.

Mr Atkins: I cannot give the details he asks for without notice. The first police car was rammed by the terrorists. when they were attempting to escape. An exchange of fire followed. Unhappily the terrorists managed to make their escape. One hopes on future occasions they will not be *so* fortunate.

At this point Mr Paisley asked his question following which he was named and suspended.

Mr James McCusker (Armagh, Off UU) then asked: The identity of most of the men involved in the killing of my constituents, including Sir Norman Stronge is known not only to the security forces but to Government Ministers on both sides of the border.

It is a deplorable situation that all my constituents can now do is *to wait until they kill someone* else.

Mr Atkins: I do not know the names of any criminals. If I did I would inform the security forces. I have no doubt there are strong suspisions and I hope very much that evidence will be produced so that the guilty can be *convicted.*

Mr James Kilfedder (North Down, UU): In view of the success of the operation by the SAS against the Iranian Embassy terrorsts in London last year, and the findings of the court that the members of the SAS were not guilty of murder in the circumstances of the stage when they shot the gunmen, will *the Secretary of State employ* enough units of the SAS in Northern Ireland to deal effectively and immediately with the terrorists, particularly along the border, in west Belfast and Crossmaglen?

Mr Atkins: Both the Chief Constable and the GOC are satisfied that they have sufficient resources on the ground. I must also emphasize that all members of the security forces are subject to the law, like everyone else.

Mr Dennis Concannon, chief Opposition spokesman on Northern Ireland (Mansfield, Lab): The cross-border cooperation is getting better and better all the time. In any further discussions with Dublin would the Secretary of State get this placed at the top of the agenda? It is important to have all the cooperation we can get in the security role.

Mr Atkins: I agree cooperation is improving all the time and it is a matter we keep constantly before us in discussions with the authorities south of the border.

Mr Gerard Fitt (Belfast, West, Soc): In relation to security in Northern Ireland there are two malign forces. First, the men of the IRA, and the other led by para military leaders, in some cases elected leaders of the Unionist loyalists in Northern Ireland.

Both these malign elements feed on each other. The IRA murder policemen, UDR men and innocent *civilians which in return* brings a reaction by people who lead illegal armies up *hills* in County Antrim and refuse to recognize the authority of the House.

Why does the Secretary of State find it so difficult to ban the activities of the Ulster Defence Association which has been identified with some of the most atrocious murders that have been committed in Northern Ireland and in particular the attempted murder of Bernadette Devlin?

Will the Secretary of State give an undertaking that the sheer weight of numbers of the UDA will not prevent him from bringing into action all the forces of law and order to defeat the UDA, the IRA, and whatever other paramilitary organizations there may be?

Mr Atkins: Without agreeing with everything that Mr Fitt said, I can say at once that the size of an organization has nothing to do with whether it is proscribed or not. The test of proscription is whether or not any organization is actively encouraging, supporting or engaging *in* terrorist activities.

Any organization that does that is liable to be proscribed. The most important thing is to prevent people committing crimes and if they commit them, whoever they are and wherever they come from, *to bring them speedily to justice.*

Backing for stand on exclusive fishing limit

Ministers are to have talks with leaders of the fishing industry next Tuesday to hear from them an analysis of the financial position in the industry and any constructive suggestions they wish to make, *Mr Peter Walker, Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries* and Food, said in a statement.

He was reporting on his three days of talks in Brussels with other fisheries ministers of the European Community.

Mr Walker (Worcester, C) said: In spite of intensive and sustained *negotiations, the Council of* Ministers failed to reach agreement on a revised common fisheries policy. Discussions will be resumed on March 9 and 10.

In the course of the three days United Kingdom ministers were able to have discussions with *representatives of the industry on* the problems which they are currently experiencing.

The Government has already announced its decision to bring forward the review of the fishing industry's financial position. The Government has now fixed a meeting with the industry for next Tuesday.

The object of the meeting will be to receive from the industry an analysis of their current financial position and to listen to any constructive suggestions they wish to make. The analysis and the suggestions will then be urgently considered by the Government.

We also discussed the adverse effects of cheap fish imports and it has been agreed that a team of industry representatives and Government officials will immediately examine all allegations of illegal and unfair imports of fish.

During the Council meeting, we brought to the attention of the Commission the fact that the system operating to prevent cheap imports entering our market from third countries was not working effectively. We have obtained a firm undertaking from the Commissioner that he will urgently examine the problem in order to make the system more effective.

Mr Roy Mason, chief Opposition spokesman on agriculture and fisheries (Barnsley, Lab): Mr Walker will continue to get our backing as long as he stands firm in the Council of Ministers for British fisheries proposals as agreed by all the industry and this *House.*

It would appear that some progress is being made, especially on conservation, inspection and total allowable catches. In spite of French intransigence he must still stand firm on two of the cardinal points—the 12-mile exclusive belt *and our dominant preference up* to 50 miles.

He was right to hold up the agreements of the Germans with the Canadians and the Danes with the Faroes and the French fishing up to our beaches until we have managed to obtain a satisfactory package.

What proposals were put forward on financial aid by the Common Market? What action has he in mind to stop cheap fish imports now?

Will all sections of the industry be represented on the committee of inquiry?

In view of this further delay on the common fisheries policy can we expect a statement on financial aid for the industry next week?

Mr Walker: I am grateful for Mr Mason's comments. One of our strengths in the negotiations is the unity between the Government, industry and the House. At every stage, every step and every counter proposal in Brussels we have the industry in to discuss and agree our tactical position. That will continue until we reach final agreement.

I regretted that the decision we had to make on the Canadian agreement has an immediate adverse effect on the German fleet which was not my objective.

The Community must understand there is no way Britain can accept an agreement which will result in an increase of cheap imports into our markets in return for fishing facilities for any other European country until we reach an overall satisfactory agreement for Britain.

On aid, following Tuesday's meeting urgent discussions will be held in Whitehall and an early statement will be made.

In January my department analysed 22 cases of import procedures which we consider the Commission should look at. I personally discussed these cases *this* week with the new Commissioner and he has undertaken to look into them urgently.

Mr Peter Mills (West Devon, C): Bearing in mind his firm stand, should the fishermen not now go back to sea? Would he consider that if this nonsense goes on, particularly with the French, we may have to take unilateral action to help our fishermen and consumers?

Mr Walker: The leaders of the industry with whom I have been in Brussels made it clear that the action being taken by fishermen was not intended to say that the British Government should come to a speedy and quick settlement irrespective of the terms.

I am glad to have received this morning reports from ports throughout the country that our fishermen are going back to sea.

Financial aid is a form of unilateral action. The industry leaders appreciated that the Government on its own initiative decided to review the financial position ahead of the time agreed for review.

The advantage of having the leaders of industry accompanying me (he said later) is that when one comes to detailed questions of access one can discuss them with the fishermen who know the problems of the locality and what is acceptable and not acceptable.

They know we will not deliver a fishing agreement which is not acceptable for the British fishing industry.

Mr Walker, in response to a later question, said he recognized the frustration of any boat that came back with a good catch but found, because of the low prices, that it had lost money.

That was one of the prime reasons he had to resist the Canadian agreement which would have made cod prices worse than they were at present.

Mr Austin Mitchell (Grimsby, Lab): Emergency action on imports is needed. The industry wants action now, particularly on cheap imports.

Mr Walker: What is encouraging is that the fishermen of Grimsby were the first to go back. It shows that they are encouraged by the action we are taking. As MP for Grimsby, Mr Mitchell knows that his fishermen know that already the Government has given double the aid of its predecessors in any single year.

On the composition of the committee to investigate allegations *of* dumping, the minister said: I want to have a committee in which the industry has confidence. I want a small, compact committee of the leaders of the fishing industry, respected by the fishing industry as a whole.

Mr Douglas Jay (Wandsworth, Battersea, North, Lab): Does the minister think that throughout the talks the French have shown a Community spirit? (Laughter).

Mr Walker: It could well be that a French deputy could ask the same question of the French Ministry about the British. In the Community on a number of questions one has a dialogue between countries and naturally countries pursue their national interests. But looking over the history of the Community I think that decision are made to the benefit of the Community as a whole.

Mr Dennis Skinner (Bolsover Lab): Why is it necessary to se up a quango—an Acas typ body—when there is plenty o evidence on television and in t media to prove that there is fid dling and dumping on a massiv scale, to the detriment of th country?

It is not truer to say that th buying of time has more to d with the reelection of M Giscar d'Estaing

Mr Walker: With his detaile knowledge of the fishing indust —(laughter)—Mr Skinner w know that one thing his fishir constituents require more than a other is a system of control whi does not exist because we do n have a common fisheries polic

Mr Gavin Strang, an Oppositi spokesman on fisheries (Edi burgh, East, Lab): Does t Minister see any prospect agreement on a common fisher policy before the French electio Can he assure us that there w be no trade-off between the *fishery negotiations and t* negotiations shortly on agricultu prices?

Mr Walker: We have nev accepted, on the budget, agric ture or fisheries matters principle of any link. It is not Government's intention to li any of these matters.

Whether there is any prospect agreement before the Fren elections is a question he shou put to the French instead of n

Ulster car firm told no more public funds are available

The Government had made clear to the De Lorean car company of Ulster that sufficient provision of public funds had been made to the company and it must look elsewhere as necessary for any further funding.

Mr Adam Butler, Minister of State for Northern Ireland (Bosworth, C), said that when he announced that he had agreed in principle to provide a time-limited guarantee for commercial loans of up to £10m to the company.

Mr John Bruce-Gardyne (Knutsford, C) had asked why, in view of the statement the Secretary of State, Mr Humphrey Atkins had made in August, 1980, that the Government's obligation to consider applications for further financial assistance for the De Lorean company had been discharged, he had decided to consider a further application from the company.

Mr Butler: I considered a further application for a Government *guarantee in respect of commercial* loans to help the company resolve a short-term cash problem and take the DMC-12 car through to market launch.

I have now agreed in principle to the provision of a time-limited guarantee for commercial loans of up to £10m, subject to certain acknowledgements which record the company's acceptance that neither the Northern Ireland Development Agency nor the Department of Commerce have any financial obligations towards the company and which confirms that royalties remain payable as agreed.

***Mr Bruce-Gardyne**: Those undertakings* were given to the House six months ago. Is there not a danger that in dealings with Mr De Lorean, Mr Butler may come to resemble the young lady from Riga who went for a ride on a tiger?

An MP: Finish it Jock. (Laughter)

Mr Bruce-Gardyne: Mr De Lorean apparently *has a tee-shirt on* which he has emblazoned the slogan "I am a con man". Will he consider sending him a character reference?

A Labour MP: You should wear one too.

Mr Bruce-Gardyne: Can the Minister give an assurance that the House will have an opportunity to debate and vote before any further money is given to this con man?

Mr Butler: Mr Bruce-Gardyne does not help his cause. It is a serious matter whether more money should be put behind this *project. No more is being put* behind it and this is purely a Government guarantee behind commercial loans to launch a car which they believe to have good market prospects.

The obligations were removed in agreements last summer, but in view of certain press statements about the beliefs of one or two parties to the arrangement, I have thought it necessary to come to a firm written understanding with De Lorean that no such obligations exist.

Mr Enoch Powell (South Down, Off UU): A fraction of the sums invested or sunk, in De Lorean would be sufficient to produce an improvement in transport links between the province and the mainland and far more jobs would be created and maintained in that way than by De Lorean.

Mr Butler: The decision to start the project was taken by the previous Government. We were *faced* last year with an approach for further funds. I have been approached again and I have explained what our practice has been in the circumstances.

We have said to the company that the Government has made sufficient provision of public funds in respect of the DMC car project and that they must look elsewhere *as necessary for further funding.*

Mr Michael McNair-Wilson (Newbury, C): Can he say that if Mr De Lorean approaches the Government about a further guarantee no such guarantee will be given unless the contract, so favourable to De Lorean, is renegotiated?

Mr Butler: There will be no more *selective assistance given to* the project. The company is well aware of it.

Mr Robert Adley (Christchurch and Lymington, C): No steps were taken by the Department of Industry to save the MG. Those who watched that with dismay, watch this with even more dismay.

Will he allow me to accompany him to the De Lorean factory to see whether my constituents are getting value for their taxes?

Mr Butler: Mr Adley's interpretation of the Government attitude to MG is different from that of ministers, of whom I was one at *the time.* If Mr Adley wrote an appropriate letter to De Lorean, I think they would welcome him at an appropriate time.

Mr Dennis Concannon, chief *Opposition spokesman* on Northern Ireland (Mansfield, Lab): There is more to this than the De Lorean car project. It was always a project which would have good spin-offs in Northern Ireland as well as in the rest of the United Kingdom.

MPs: Where?

Mr Concannon: There are some. One has only to remember the steel industry in Scunthorpe *where the steel comes from.* About 80 per cent of this is in the United Kingdom.

In America the publicity for the car is eagerly awaited. We should give the car a fair wind.

Mr Butler: Mr Concannon takes the right attitude to the car.

More freedom in education promised for Scotland

For too long the attitude had prevailed in some quarters that parents must just accept without question whatever education authorities or *teachers thought fit to* offer their children, Mr George Younger, Secretary of State for Scotland, said when moving the second reading of the Education (Scotland) Bill.

Mr Younger (Ayr, C) said that the Bill gave *education authorities* a duty to comply with parental requests, unless one or more of the specified grounds for refusal applied.

To safeguard parents, if they were not satisfied by the education authority's refusal of a request, the Bill provided for a system of independent appeal committees.

The Opposition objected most strongly to the provisions concerning the assisted places scheme.

Pupils to be admitted to assisted places would be chosen by the schools themselves subject only to a requirement that they must be capable of benefiting from the education provided.

This scheme would progressively convert the traditional indiscriminate subsidy, *which* helped only families who could already afford *to pay substantial fees, into an* income-linked subsidy.

This Bill was not essential to the introduction of the assisted places scheme. He already had powers to introduce it under existing legislation and proposed to use them to make interim regulations which he hoped to lay before the House shortly.

The Government proposed to put forward an amendment to the effect that if a church or denominational body made representations to the Secretary of State that an education authority proposal would result in a materially inequitable distribution or materially unsatisfactory standard of denominational schools compared with other schools, and if he was satisfied that these representations were justified, the proposal would require his consent.

Mr Bruce Millan, chief Opposition *spokesman on Scotland* (Glasgow, Craigton, Lab) said the Bill was irrelevant to the needs of Scottish education and the greatest irrelevancy was the assisted places scheme. The Secretary of State had been unable to produce a single reputable body of educational opinion in Scotland which was in favour of the scheme.

He gloried in the cuts in education he was making, yet a small privileged sector of Scottish education had been given favoured treatment. The Bill's provisions would give it even more favoured treatment over the next few years.

The Bill was about putting dirty work of the Secretary State on to the education autho ties. It was humbug to say it g greater freedom to them.

He had never known an issue which the personal integrity of Secretary of State and his jun minister had been more at st and they had been more critic by responsible educational terests than on the issue of collegues of education.

I am not accusing them of be liars (he said) because I know t that is not parliamentary pro dure—(Laughter)—but they h been accused by educational terests in Scotland of being liars

Mr Younger's reputation was tatters and would not be enhan by this shabby and dishonest Bil

Mr Michael Ancram (Edinbur South, C) said the principle th parents should have the major in how their children were e cated was widely regarded as human right. The present struct was denying them that right.

Mr William Hamilton (Cen Fife, Lab) said if the Bill had b scrapped and replaced by a dealing with the compulsory, st tory educational and vocatio provision for the 16 to 19-yr olds, it would have had unanim support.

Mr Iain Sproat (Aberdeen, So C) said the assisted places sche like the parents' charter, enlar the freedom of every parent Scotland. For that reason warmly supported the Bill.

Mr Gordon Wilson (Dundee, E Scot Nat) said the Government talking rhetorically about freed of choice when its educat expenditure policies were restr ing the development of an *proved educational system.*

Mr George Foulkes (South A shire, Lab) said he hoped one the priorities of the next Lab Government would be to end assisted places scheme immedia because these schools were breeding ground of privilege.

Mr Martin O'Neil, an Opposit spokesman on Scottish aff (East Stirlingshire and Clackm nan, Lab) said that the pare charter in the Bill was a sh appealing to the worst instinct Tory voters. As soon as Lab returned to power it would dis tinue the assisted places sche That would be the first towards elimination of any s aid for private education.

Mr Alexander Fletcher, Un Secretary, Scottish Office (E burgh, North, C) said *the Opp* tion had suggested the assi places scheme was a kind of p lege or expansion of privil Even if the Government acce that, and it did not, why sh the people's party object to p ilege being applied to low inc families.

The Bill was read a second by 306 votes to 254—Governm majority, 52.

The House adjourned 10.43 p

PM to see MPs over big factory closures

Mrs Margaret Thatcher, the Prime Minister, said she would always be willing to see an MP in whose constituency a main factory closure was about to occur.

Mr Robert Parry (Liverpool, Scotland Exchange, Lab) had asked during questions if, when she met the Prime Minister of Mauritius later today, she would discuss the implications of the proposed closure of the Tate and Lyle factory for the ACP countries.

He continued: Will she reconsider her decision and meet an all-party parliamentary delegation to discuss the matter? A Government initiative could save this refinery.

Mrs Margaret Thatcher: I expect the Prime Minister of Mauritius will raise the question of refining of sugar though I understand an undertaking has been given to refine most of the sugar under the ACP agreements.

This refinery is in Mr Parry's *constituency. The Minister for* Agriculture (Mr Peter Walker) flew back from Brussels to receive a delegation on this. I cannot duplicate this.

I will always see an MP in whose constituency a closure is about to occur. (Labour laughter.)

Mr Allan Stewart (East Renfrewshire, C): Will the Secretary of State (Sir Keith Joseph) and the Department of Industry do everything possible to put to Nissan Datsun that it would be in the company's best commercial interests to reconsider going to a greenfield site in order to go to the Linwood site, using the skilled workforce there?

Mrs Thatcher: Nissan is studying the feasibility of coming to this country on a greenfield site and I do not think there is any possibility of dissuading them from that.

Mr Michael Foot, Leader of the *Opposition (Ebbw Vale, Lab)*: I thank her for her generous answer to Mr Parry (Labour laughter and cheers.) Will she be dealing with the correspondence herself or will some minister be put in charge of these requests?

Will she undertake to publish each week in *Hansard* the requests from all Labour MPs who face closures? May I put in my own request to come and look at closures in my own constituency right away, with all the others. right away, with all the others? the next week? (Renewed laughter.)

Mrs Thatcher: As usual, Mr Foot has got it wrong. (Laughter.) I said I would see the MP from a constituency where a main factory closure occurs. (Labour interruptions.)

A big delegation must always go to the minister concerned, just as this main delegation went to Mr Walker. I personally will see the MP. I am sorry Mr Foot greets such a courtesy in such a churlish manner. (Conservative cheers.)

Parliamentary notices

House of Commons

Today at 9.30: Private Members' Bills: Gaelic (Miscellaneous Provisions) Bill and Safety of Children in Cars Bill, second readings.

House of Lords

Today at 11: Wildlife and Countryside Bill, committee (Sixth day).

Mr Foot seeks action on coal mine closures

There was no doubt that to reflate on top of the present level of inflation would result in still higher inflation and unemployment, Mrs Margaret Thatcher, the Prime Minister, insisted during question time exchanges.

Mr Michael Meacher (Oldham, West, Lab) had asked: Why does the Prime Minister keep on refusing to reflate on the grounds that it always leads to worse inflation when all previous *reflation*, except the disastrous Barber one, have not led to a surge of *inflation or higher unemployment?*

What this country desperately needs is not an ever-greater squeeze on credit, leading to ever-increasing unemployment, but an expansion of credit, provided it is channelled into investment, public as well as private, which would reduce unemployment without bringing inflation.

Mrs Thatcher (Barnet, Finchley, C): To reflate on top of the present level of inflation would lead to higher inflation and unemployment. There is no doubt about it.

Mr David Steel, Leader of the *Liberal Party (Roxburgh, Selkirk* and Peebles): Would she reconsider the cost she gave the House last Thursday of unemployment in the light of the article in *The Times Business News* this morning based on Treasury figures which suggests that the total direct and indirect cost to the Government *of higher unemployment is likely* to be £5,000 per worker?

Mrs Thatcher: The two things are wholly different. I gave the cost of unemployment benefit coupled with social security benefit. Those figures are accurate.

What he is giving is what the Exchequer would benefit if everyone *were in work.* (Labour cheers). If everyone were at work producing goods and services that someone else would buy without subsidy there would be no problem.

Mr Michael Foot, Leader of the Opposition (Ebbw Vale, Lab): Since the Leader of the House (Mr Pym) has stated in a notable *speech that the Government is* in a frame of mind to recognize reality and acknowledge mistakes, would she reconsider the answer she gave me on Tuesday about the coal industry in which she appeared to wash her hands of the whole issue?

Will she look afresh at the matter, see how serious the situation is and promise that the Government will intervene?

Mrs Thatcher: In regard to the speech by the Chancellor of the Duchy I wholly agree with him. There was excellent stuff in it—"The attack on inflation is an *attack on unemployment*" and "The most enduring safeguard against unemployment will be the elimination of inflation. We must not abandon the long term strategic approach we believe in."

It is the Government's duty to negotiate with the chairman of the National Coal Board the amount of money for the year. This year it is £834m; next year it will be £882m. These are considerable sums on top of the price for coal and are sums which give coal an excellent future.

Mr Foot: Is she seriously saying she will refuse to call together in this critical situation the tripartite meetings we had on the coal industry which saved it following the experiences of 1974?

When we came in we had to call together these tripartite discussions to deal with the matter. That is what she will have to do on this occasion. Will she decide to do it now instead of being forced to do it later?

Mrs Thatcher: No. I am not forced to do anything.

Lord Mountbatten was never a unilateralist

Any government which wished to defend its people must see that it had sufficient nuclear weapons to deter an aggressor, Mrs Margaret Thatcher, the Prime Minister, said during question time exchanges.

The exchanges began when Mr

***Michael Hamilton** (Salisbury, C)* asked: As the Leader of the Opposition was good enough last week to send a message to the Salisbury branch of the Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament, might she find time today to send a similar message of good will and congratulations to the Duke of *Edinburgh for his outstanding* speech on Monday. (Conservative cheers.)

Mrs Thatcher: I am sure there are the same thoughts in elevated situations which the present Government supports.

Although we wish nuclear weapons had never been invented the potential aggressor has a large stock and a particularly great supply of SS20s. Any government which wishes to defend its people must see that we have sufficient nuclear weapons to deter an aggressor.

Mr Michael Foot, Leader of the Opposition (Ebbw Vale, Lab): Perhaps the late Lord Louis Mountbatten knew more about war and nuclear weapons than even the Duke of Edinburgh. (Conservative protests.)

Mrs Thatcher: the late Lord Louis was never a unilateralist—(renewed Conservative cheers)—nor would he ever have been. He had too much regard for the liberties of this country. (Further Conservative cheers.)

Mr David Mellor (Wandsworth, Putney, C): Does she agree that the adoption by the Labour Party of unilateral disarmament, the increasing number of Labour back benchers who seem to be apologists for Soviet imperialism, *and the increasing number of* Trotskyists being adopted to fight GLC and parliamentary seats under the Labour Party banner, poses one of the greatest threats to democracy in Britain?

Mrs Margaret Thatcher: I agree. The Labour Party opposite would not be ready to defend the benefits they enjoy under democracy.

Mr Peter Tapsell (Horncastle, C): Does anyone think Poland would today face a serious threat of an invasion by Russian forces if it possessed its own independent nuclear deterrent?

Mrs Thatcher: The answer must be no. The policy of unilateralism may be espoused on the other side of the House; it is totally and utterly rejected on this side.

Debate on Linwood

The main business in the House of Commons will be:

Monday: Private Member's motion on adult education.

Tuesday: Debate on Opposition motion on effective Government action to prevent the closure of Talbot Linwood. Opposition motion on EEC sugar proposals.

Wednesday: Proceedings on the Redundancy Fund Bill and on the *Iron and Steel (Borrowing Powers)* Bill.

Thursday: Water Bill, remaining stages. Proceedings on the House of Commons Member's Fund and Parliamentary Pensions Bill and motion on members' salaries and pensions.

Friday: Private Members' Bills. Shops Bill and Countryside (Scotland) Bill, second readings.

The main business in the House of Lords will be:

Monday: Town and Country Planning (Minerals) Bill, committee (Second day.)

Tuesday: Industry Bill, second reading. Contempt of Court Bill, third reading. Debate on European Community Committee report on the environment.

Wednesday: Debates on civil aviation industry and on EEC initiatives in the Middle East.

Thursday: Wildlife and Countryside Bill, committee (Seventh day.)

Friday: Wildlife and Countryside Bill, committee (Eight day) unless completed on Thursday.

Dispute over patriation

Mrs Margaret Thatcher, the Prime Minister, was asked to confirm that the duty of the House in the dispute over patriation of the *Canadian constitution* was to consider the wishes of all the Canadian people as a whole and not the diktat of Mr Trudeau.

Mr Anthony Grant (Harrow, Central, C) also asked: Will she consider the *relations* between Britain and Canada? The Canadian Prime Minister is *insisting publicly* that Mrs Thatcher *undertook* to impose a three line whip to put through this House the proposals on patriation of the constitution. Will she confirm that this is correct?

Mrs Margaret Thatcher: Thre *whips are not decided on* unti days before the business of House when we know exactly the position is and exactly the request is that we may to honour.

I wholly confirm what I already said—that we have received any request from *Canadian* Government. *Whe* do receive it, it is our du deal with it as expeditiousl possible.

Protecting nature sites of special interest

House of Lords

Loss or serious damage to sites of special scientific interests in England was dramatically and appallingly higher than had previously been expected, **Lord Melchett** (Lab) said on the fifth day of the committee stage of the Wildlife and Countryside Bill.

He said it had been thought that the rate of loss or serious damage was 4 or 5 per cent a year, but figures released yesterday by the Nature Conservancy Council showed that in 1980 serious damage or loss was running at 10 *per cent. In Dorset it was 32 per* cent.

He moved an amendment to Clause 26 (Orders designating certain areas of special scientific interest) which, he said, would help stop the catastrophic destruction of sites.

The figures revealed by the NCC were a national and international scandal. There was no hope of carrying out international obligations to safeguard natural habitats without stopping the catastrophic destruction of sites.

The amendment, which would provide the power to protect all sites *of special scientific interest*, would help stop the destruction. Without it, the time spent on the earlier part of the Bill would be wasted.

The Earl of Avon, Lord in Waiting, said the Government proposals encompassed a wide range of powers which would give super protection to the most threatened sites identified by the NCC.

To apply the concept of super protection to all 3,800 sites would be a draconian measure and it *would mean the physical and financial* resources of the NCC were so strained that the whole objective of the Government's intentions might be jeopardised.

There was no point in passing the amendment and giving the impression that all sites of special scientific interest would be given full protection. That would be a false impression because the Government did not think it could be honoured.

The amendment was withdrawn. **Lord Craigton** (C) said all shades of conservation opinion believed the Governments' proposal to limit protection to just a few sites of special scientific interest was most objectionable and should be done away with.

He moved an amendment to Clause 26 and spoke to a series of other amendments, under which owner-occupiers would be notified *when land under their control was* a site of special scientific interest and what operations might cause damage to the heritage value of the land.

He said the Government's proposals in the Bill were clearly inadequate. He was glad they had received the NCC's figures in time to have a chance to try and stop the rot. The NCC should decide, and not the Secretary of State, what was a site of special scientific interest.

Lord Renton (C) said that arrangements to protect the habitat had broken down. In Huntingdonshire 88 per cent of all hedgerows had been destroyed in the past 30 years. That must have had a tremendous effect on the habitat and wild life of small birds.

Thirty one years ago there was a *wood at the side of the Fen where* the swallow tailed butterfly flourished, but since the river authority decided to lower the level of the water table the vegtation upon which that butterfly depended had been destroyed and the butterfly had never been seen.

***Lady White** (Lab) said that it was* incredible that anybody could suppose that the selection of 40 or 50 special sites would save Britain's natural heritage.

The Earl of Avon, a Lord in Waiting, said that no specific sites were at the moment under consideration *for designation.*

These sites were not super ones. It was the protection that was super. Of the present total of 3,800 special sites which the NCC considered areas of special scientific interest, there were some which were of super quality and many of international as well as national value. Those had no statutory protection other than where they were owned by the NCC, or a conservation body, or the owner was willing to reach agreement with the NCC.

The clause, for the first time, gave statutory protection for special sites.

The Government accepted the general burden of the first part of the amendment. It was common ground that the NCC should have a statutory duty to inform all owners of land which was of special scien*tific interest why it was of interest*, and what operations might damage the land. The Government would be tabling amendments accordingly.

Whatever happened, it would not be possible for the NCC to inform everyone of those things the day after the Act was passed.

The sites designated for super protection would automatically constitute land charges as would land subject to agreements which had a binding effect on successors. That would not be the case with the generality of sites. Of the 3,800 sites, about one third were not *susceptible to damage or destruction*, by their nature.

The amendment was withdrawn.

The committee stage was adjourned.

The European Assembly Elections Bill was read a second time.

Support for Commission's plan

European Parliament

Luxembourg

A vote of confidence in the new EEC Commission was tabled by the Socialist European Democratic and Liberal and Democratic Groups. A combined motion expressed confidence in the Commission for the execution of the 1981 programme and instructed the President of the Parliament to forward the result of the vote to the EEC Commission and Council of Ministers.

A second motion tabled on behalf of the Christian-Democratic group approved the appointment *of the Commission and called on it* to reach an inter-institutional agreement with Parliament on future cooperation.

It suggested that legislative proposals should not be submitted to the Council before Parliament had deliberated on them and that legislative initiatives by Parliament should be taken up by the Commission and submitted for adoption to the Council.

Support should be given to Parliament's effort to give more effective form to the conciliation procedure which should be extended to legal acts without financial im*plications.*

Finally, the motion recommended that in response to an adequately reasoned request by Parliament, proceedings against a member state should be instituted in the European Court of Justice.

A new look at the problem of unemployment in hte EEC was called for by Lady Elles (Thames Valley, ED) during the debate on the Commission's programme. People would have to realize that a diploma was not a passport to a job and that most would now have to change jobs at least three times during their lifetimes.

It should not be called unemployment when people were turned out of one factory and later started a job in another. It should be called redeployment because the term suggested people who were idle or *did not want to work. This was a* degrading description.

Herr Fritz-Gautier (West Germany, Soc), for the Socialist group, said that after the collapse of the fisheries talks in Brussels, he had the impression that by the time they arrived at a common fisheries policy, they would either have no fish or no fishermen left.

The Commission should indicate what steps it was contemplating following the failure of the talks in the United Kingdom, fishermen were on *strike* and blocking the ports. They were also blockaded in Germany where French vessels had been *repulsed* and *todays'* transport of fish from Holland and Denmark had been sent back.

While the Council prevaricated jobs were lost. The irony was that there was plenty of fish around the EEC, but there was the absence of a political decision to allocat stocks.

If the situation continued, would be a bankruptcy of North Sea fisheries with the l thousands of jobs with al effects this would have o *associated fishing industry.*

Mr David Curry (Essex, N ED) said when the Commissi about reassessment of the co agricultural policy, it should from the fact that it was no l a common policy: it had bee merged in an avalanche of na *aids which were uncoordi* unorganized and in many case notified.

The votes of confidence ref to earlier were withdrawn. S other versions were discussed.

Parliament eventually pass motion tabled by the Chr Democrat group, the Liberal Democratic group and the pean Democratic group appr the appointment of the Co sion, taking note of its progr and declaring itself in agre with the underlying political ciples.

It noted with satisfaction Commission's indication to s by October 1, a comprehe document aimed at reaching a ment on inter-institutional tions for future cooperation.

THE ARTS

Cassavetes's caustic view of life in the States

Gloria (AA)
Columbia

Prostitute (X)
Screen on the Green/
Cinecenta

Little Lord Fauntleroy (U)
Classic, Haymarket

More American Graffiti (AA)
Plaza

The Cat and the Canary (AA)
Odeon, Kensington

The Devil and Max Devlin (A)
Rialto

The Ninth Configuration (X)
Odeon,
St. Martin's Lane

..n Italian-American family is ..bout to be murdered. At the ..st moment the six-year-old ..an is handed to Gloria, a ..eluctant babysitter. When the ..amily is shot dead, the Mafia ..ome hunting for the boy. ..gainst her better judgment, ..loria revives her maternal ..eelings and goes on the run.

This is the core of *Gloria*, a ..hriller too engrossing to ..atch in comfort and a film ..hich moves the anti-commer..ial directional career of John ..assavetes away from the for..idding confusion of his last, ..he *Killing of a Chinese* ..ookie. In *Gloria* Cassavetes ..akes a caustic view of life in ..he United States.

It is a land where organized ..ime does as it likes. The ..rces of law and order are ..ot to be trusted. The Mafia ..reads a parallel web of auth..ity and demands even more ..yalty than legitimate busi..ss. There is no room for dis..nt and those who try to buck ..e system are swiftly executed. Children are punished for their parents' crimes.

The power of the film stems from Gena Rowlands as Gloria. Encouraged by Cassavetes to extemporize, she adopts a mood of desperate realism, playing up the toughness of a woman whose better nature demands that she save the skin of a dislikable boy, played with unappealing blankness by John Adames. Miss Rowlands's performance is rich and confident, unfailing in its intelligence, unstinting in its conviction.

The longer the fugitives hold out against their lethal pursuers, the more the film becomes fantasy, ending with a scene of irritating ambiguity. Cassavetes turns the thriller into a moral fable, accusing those who shun action of condoning the crimes of the status quo.

Women who put themselves outside the law and cannot rely upon police protection are the subject of Tony Garnett's directorial debut, *Prostitute*. Previously Garnett has collaborated with Ken Loach on films like *Kes* and *Law and Order*, using extemporized acting and a pseudo-documentary style to humanize social and political issues.

Garnett has returned to his home town, Birmingham, and, working with a cast of actors and prostitutes, has aimed to raise the level of public debate about prostitution by providing some facts. Prostitution is not illegal in Britain but the act of soliciting is. Those who have been cautioned by the police three times may be introduced in court as a "common prostitute", which campaigners for reform consider to be prejudicial.

There is no special pleading. It is enough for Garnett and those who helped him, who include members of the programme for the reform of the law on soliciting, to show prostitutes as ordinary, vulnerable women plying a distasteful and sometimes dangerous trade. They claim that because of their links with criminality and the hysteria which surrounds sexual matters, prostitutes have been deprived of common justice and often become victims of police harassment.

Mary Pickford played the original Little Lord Fauntleroy in 1922, dressing up in drag to act Frances Hodgson Burnett's boy who is really a British earl. In 1936 the film was remade with Freddie Bartholomew in the title role. Both films are hard to follow, but Jack Gold's *Little Lord Fauntleroy*, set in Belvoir Castle, is good enough not to attract comparison.

Alec Guinness's central performance as the crabby grandfather whose heart is thawed by the young aristocrat's generous nature is a major strength. And Ricky Shroder, as the boy, deserves credit for subduing the incessant chirpiness which marred his first outing, in Franco Zeffirelli's remake of *The Champ*. The supporting cast is thoroughly sound, too, led by a humorously republican Colin Blakeley and a soft and understated Connie Booth.

But the triumph belongs to Jack Gold and he deserves it, particularly after the shabby television premiere granted to *The Sailor's Return*, a film which needed a large screen for a fair viewing. There are minor irritants, like a too-glamorous slum and perpetual old-fashioned looks between servants. Gold's achievement, however, is to make a thoroughly enjoyable family film at a time when no one else seems capable of it.

Eight years ago George Lucas made *American Graffiti*, a loud, energetic celebration of cruising around in cars in 1962 America. Lucas is the executive producer of *More American Graffiti* but has left the direction to B. W. L. Norton, much as he abdicated from directing the sequel to *Star Wars*.

The same characters (still played by Candy Clark, Paul Le Mat, Charles Martin Smith, but without Richard Dreyfuss) are followed through the Sixties of campus revolts, hippies, drugs, Vietnam, draft-dodging and good music until 1968. But Norton has little success in invoking premature nostalgia as he fails to authentically revive the time. The rare nudges to the memory come mostly through the music, which is needlessly kept in the background.

What is more, to overcome the lurches forward and back from one year to another, he attempts to make things clearer by changing the screen size. Nineteen-sixty-four is in Panavision. Vietnam is blown-up 16mm. Scenes to do with psychedelia use an intrusive split screen. The result is confusion.

The theatre favourite of the Thirties, the whodunit, is resurrected by Radley Metzger's *The Cat and the Canary*, from John Willard's play. Honor Blackman, Edward Fox, Wendy Hiller, Daniel Massey and others are billeted in an empty country house during a thunder storm to hear a 20-year-old will read from beyond the grave by a monochrome Wilfrid Hyde White on a home movie. During the night they are murdered one by one. It is a dawdling and less suspenseful attempt to ape René Clair's 1945 *And Then There Was None*.

The notion of a reprieve from death has generated some splendid films, including Michael Powell's *Between Heaven and Hell* and Warren Beatty's remake of Ernst Lubitsch's *Heaven Can Wait*. The idea returns in a Walt Disney lecture on talking to strangers, *The Devil and Max Devlin*, directed by Steven Hilliard Stern.

Elliott Gould walks through as the man who is excused level four of hell—"horrible"—if he will recruit three children to the Satanic cause, and he almost lifts it out of its moralistic mire. Bill Cosby, as a black angel, is given no chance to make a similar contribution and the film stays firmly in the starchy Disney mould, even down to a wholly illogical happy ending.

The tearaway success of *The Exorcist* owned more to the skilful direction of William Friedkin and the revived public appetite for terror than it did to the quality of writing in the novel by William Peter Blatty. On the strength of that film, however, Blatty has produced, written and directed *The Ninth Configuration*, adapted from his own novel and starring, among others, Blatty, his wife and child.

The traditional division of labour usually helps to minimize the excesses which riddle this film. The story is ridiculous and incoherent, inventing a castle packed with mad or feigning Vietnam veterans and an astronaut. An insane colonel (Stacy Keach) arrives and under his supervision the asylum becomes a forum for Blatty's homespun theories on everything from Hamlet to Roman Catholicism.

Nicholas Wapshott



Gena Rowlands as Gloria, a performance unstinting in its conviction

Theatre

The cartoonist and the censor

No End of Blame
Oxford

Irving Wardle

"Important art", says Howard Barker's cartoonist hero, "is about us. Great art is about me ... I hate paint: give me ink."

By selective reference you could say that *No End of Blame* (expanded from a banned television play) explores this contrast through the careers of two Hungarian artists, from their wartime experiences in 1918 to their last meeting in a London mental hospital 55 years later.

Barker's plays, however, do not yield to neat summary: and even in the opening scene—a battlefield life class—you have to adjust your sympathies in three directions, as Grigor (the fine artist) is avidly sketching a terrified nude girl who escapes when Bela (the hero) advances on the model intending to rape her.

Thereafter we get one scene in the Budapest Institute of Fine Art, and the painter drops out of the picture leaving Bela in sole command of the play; and the cartoon-fine art theme gives way to an exploration of artistic freedom. Bela's mission is to speak the truth: where can he do it? The play follows his long pilgrimage through the Russia of the New Economic Policy and the 1930s and his wartime emigration to England, where he blossoms under the name of "Vera" for a mass circulation daily before being supplanted in the 1970s by a new boy who can make the proprietor laugh.

So far as the English scenes are concerned, "Vera" seems to be based on Vicky and Donald Zec—whose famous wartime cartoon "The price of petrol has been increased by one penny: official" supplies his main conflict with British officialdom. The key Russian scene shows him being grilled by a nervously polite committee at the Writers' and Artists' Union and consenting to tear up a cartoon making fun of Lenin. Neither scene does much to support the idea of ferocious state censorship implied in Paul Freeman's portrait of the grimly suspicious artist: and it is left to Gerald Scarfe's brilliantly horrendous back projections to convey just what the truth is that he is so keen to impart.

Variety
Phoenix

Ned Chaillet

First impressions can be damning, but a rude clerk in the box office seemed determined to supply a nasty taste to the opening of the Phoenix Theatre's new venture in West End variety. The ugly curtain saying *That's Showbiz!* did nothing to reassure one and the first few notes of the overture emphasized a drummer who sounded as though he had been recruited from a Soho strip joint. When the Phoenix Dancers clumped on, with four men seemingly uninterested in dancing with each other, or with the women dancers, it began to look as if the show's title could be changed to "That's Tacky!"

Ken Goodwin, the show's principal comedian, continued that tone when he swallowed his punchlines or covered them with his own laughter. By the middle of the show he was asking anxiously after nearly every joke "did you get it?" The highlight of his routines was the presentation of a dog trained to walk off when Mr Goodwin began singing. Not, I would imagine, a difficult trick.

The strength of variety has always been the possibility of one good act following another, and several good acts taking heat off the bad ones. John Redgrave's staging aimed at that traditional balance, with Bobby Davro, a likeable impressionist whose mimicry failed to make much of an impression, followed by the Great Vovari, an illusionist who sawed a woman in half. Both could have better nights.

But twice, in two and a half hours, the cavilling stopped. The first time was for the pointed and precise tap-dancing of the Clark Brothers, shining in their professionalism, and the second time was for the young, witty show-stopping pair of jugglers, Dr Hot and Neon. Variety could fill the beautiful Phoenix Theatre if all the acts had the skill and imagination of those two.

At Home
Riverside Studios

Ned Chaillet

Michael Weller is such an overtly American playwright in his tone of voice and comic rhythms that it is easy to forget his early close ties to the British Theatre. His last full-length play, *Loose Ends* is a 10-year leap in the chronicling of his generation which he began with the play *Cancer* at the Royal Court in 1970, and it is overdue for an airing in London. Walter Donohue's lunchtime production of *At Home* works rather as a trailer for that larger play, displaying Mr Weller's fine skills of characterization through prickly conversation.

They are skills which keep the surface of his plays alive with a twitchy naturalism, exploiting the tendency of people to skirt round the issues which trouble them. The two characters in *At Home* are a married couple, still sore from a trivial skirmish over the salad bowl where they have been surprised by the depth of their anger. Trying to effect a truce before their dinner guests arrive, they vent more anger and hurtful sexual confessions on each other.

There is more to their marriage than simmering frustration, however, and Mr Weller's very funny writing is incisive in exploring the whole relationship. They may come to no clear understanding of the reasons for their fight, but the audience can see the desperation that holds the two together, that makes them cling together in a constant fear of intruders, even if the intruders happen to be close friends.

Kevin McNally and Kathryn Pogson give well-rounded performances, conscious of the conversational gains that must be played if emotions are not to rule. They each recognize the delightfully absurd quality of their quarrel, and give full play to the comic lines, but Mr McNally goes farther, opening up the depths of his character for one raw moment of pain before plastering the rift over with words of equally real affection.

Musical in-fighting in USA

..ere are few better ways to ..ir up a cauldron of contro..rsy in New York musical life ..an to schedule a conference .. contemporary American ..usic and invite a passel of ..mposers, performers and ..anagers to attend and speak. ..ch a conference has just ..en held, at the 92nd Street ..oung Men's/Young Women's ..ebrew Association, and, pre..ctably, emotion overcame ..ason, at least on the first day .. the crowded session, before ..e musical businessmen took ..er the second-day panels.

American contemporary ..usic is a richer arena for ..lemics than other native pro..jects simply because it is far ..ore various. Any musical cul..re has its infighting among ..mpeting composers and their ..hools, but only in the United ..ates does this rivalry extend ..yond the bounds of what is ..nsidered "serious" or "clas..al" music. Up to about ..irty years ago, it was ..cepted that music worthy of ..evated discussion as an art ..eant the work of composers ..o wrote in the European ..adition. But recently this ..marcation has been subject .. erosion.

Jazz, of course, was the first ..ch non-art music to be exam..ed, but more recently the ..ork of certain Tin Pan Alley ..mposers and, latterly that of ..ck composers whose work ..s influenced their more ..erious" brethren has come ..der critical scrutiny and ..probation. This has led to ..e severe discomfiture of ..any traditional composers ..d critics, who see these ..usics as lesser in stature and ..ser in any ultimate musical ..portance.

The battleground was estab..hed by the first paper to be ..ad. It was a tempered defence, by the composer George Rochberg, of what has been termed the "neo-romantic" music of greater aural, and therefore audience, accessibility. He included a veiled attack on earlier (almost certainly serial) music—which he himself once wrote—and this brought an instant response from the traditionalist composer Hugo Weisgall, who proceeded to dissect Rochberg's paper with a liberal dose of vitriol. Both positions were disdainfully rejected by a speaker from the audience, the composer-critic Gregory Sandow, who referred to both as members of an "uptown tribe" which had little relation to and less influence on the more important work of "downtown" experimental groups, which by inference included the composers Philip Glass, Steve Reich and many others.

The composer Jacob Druckman, on the panel, registered his discomfiture (he later confessed to be suffering from a hangover) by lambasting the YMHA for spending monies for a talkathon rather than for performances of music, and said that Elliott Carter had told him he was not present because "I only appear if my music is played"—this even though Carter's early Cello Sonata had been programmed the night before by Yo-Yo Ma. The usual feminist speaker (from the floor) delivered the usual diatribe against the male proceedings, although in the second panel a token woman composer (Joan Tower) had been included. Steve Reich's thoughtful and well-expressed second paper seemed to cool tempers, although here the box-office-is-king point of view of Isaac Stern contrasted with the art-is-king point of view of several others.

Samuel Lipman, pianist, critic for Norman Podhoretz's magazine *Commentary* and a person whose musical outlook is widely thought to be representative of the philosophy of the current Washington administration, gave a reasoned appraisal of America's musical past, focusing on composers born in a 30-year period from 1880, such as Hanson, Sessions, Barber, Thomson and Copland. Martin Mayer immediately substituted George Gershwin and Duke Ellington (to applause), and Joan Peyser, editor of *The Musical Quarterly*, added her endorsement of these non-high art figures. Lipman defended his elitist viewpoint, seconded by the ubiquitous Weisgall, and was in turn attacked from the floor by someone who maintained that the panel was irrelevant because these composers were names out of a history book, not part of today's music, and who in any case had written all their best music before he was born. Lipman observed that his adversary's birthdate did not bulk large in musical history.

Verbal duels finally gave way to music in the evening, for a concert of American works performed by the Y Chamber Symphony under its conductor Gerard Schwarz. The highlights of the music were a transcription, by Schwarz, for string orchestra of an early, neo-classic string quartet by Harold Schapero, and a marvellously virtuosic and winning trumpet concerto by Gunther Schuller. Although written for Schwarz—a distinguished trumpeter also—the concerto was played brilliantly by his protegé Stephen Burns.

Patrick J. Smith

..ondon debuts

Max Harrison

..en in these days of ..vanced technical excellence ..ahms's Sonata Op 2 is a des..rate struggle for most ..nists. Elisabeth Leonskaja ..ve a performance, however. ..t was masterful—maybe ..ther self-consciously so with .. imperious gestures of hand ..d arm. But even if the first ..vement was seen mainly as .. conflagration between hands ..d keys the playing was quite ..perb in its combined agility ..d tonal richness. In the ..dante there was exquisite ..ntrol and much expressive ..ying, ending with a subtle ..eparation for the Scherzo to ..ich it is joined; indeed, the ..althy appearance of the lat.. movement's initial quaver ..ures was a genuinely drama.. event.

Miss Leonskaja's ardent yet ..otionally rather foursquare ..sponse to Brahms would ..viously not suit the often ..vate and elusive moods of ..humann's *Fantasiestücke* Op .. and she showed herself a natural pianist in the way she modified her approach here. "Des Abends" was remote and refined, "Warum?" tremulous, "In der Nacht" black and turbulent, "Traumes Wirren" fleeting and insubstantial, an almost nebulous presence. During a performance such as this last received one forgets how conventional the figuration basically is. A powerful but perceptive grasp was shown also of Chopin's Sonata Op 58, which was dressed in warm colours, the whole conveying an impression of force and amplitude.

Except in the high-flying lines of its slow movement, Szymanowski's Violin Sonata Op 9 of 1904 is not a typical piece, and the performance by Antonina Bialas, and even more that of her pianist, Andrew Pledge, was far too loud. Such resonant confidence has its place yet should not take over completely, as it nearly did in this recital. Miss Bialas's playing was more enjoyable in Szymanowski's more characteristic Romance Op 20 (1910), a more testing piece because of its more personal language, in which she achieved considerable sensuous beauty.

This was an all-Polish programme and Paderewski's Sonata Op 13 came next, offering, as might be expected of an early composition by a popular virtuoso, no individual thoughts. It is, efficiently written, though, which is to say effectively and with academic correctness in the *lingua franca* of late Romanticism. There are many sonorous textures, and it was thrown off with considerable gusto by both participants. A *Recitativo* by Lutoslawski was more delicate, and hence something of a relief in view of the consistently loud playing elsewhere, but an unaccompanied Sonata by the prolific Grazyna Bacewicz presented calisthenics rather than music.

Books

The anarchic fabulist

The fable is such an attractive and economical literary form—pre-packed, with an explicit moral self-contained—that it is surprising it is tried so seldom. It is probably harder than it looks: yet Arnold Lobel, the latest fable-monger, has just achieved a substantial success.

He has just been awarded the Caldecott Medal, one of the two leading awards for writers of children's books.

Harper and Row are reprinting his collection of 20 tales, called simply *Fables*, although their autumn run of 50,000 was in itself an ambitious printing for a children's hardback. Jonathan Cape published the book in Britain last year.

Lobel is a middle-aged illustrator from Brooklyn best known for his "frog and toad" series for younger children. *Fables* happened by accident. He was asked to do the pictures for a new edition of Aesop but, after re-reading those fables decided he would prefer to make up his own.

The morals are on the face of it a curious mixture. Some of them are highly ... well, highly moral: "It is the high and mighty who have the longest distance to fall" and "a first failure may prepare the way for later success" and "it is always difficult to pose as something that one is not".

Yet others seem frankly anarchic, encouraging in children behaviour that adults have traditionally preferred them to suppress. "Without a doubt, there is such a thing as too much order.", declares the first tale, about a crocodile who so prefers the neat flower pattern of his wallpaper to the haphazard flowers in his garden that he stays indoors in bed and becomes ill.

Parents who try to get their children to keep their rooms tidy—an American cultural obsession—will scarcely welcome that message. Nor will they be pleased with the story about a kangaroo who plays pranks in school: when the head teacher complains the parents play pranks on him. (Moral: "A child's conduct will reflect the way of his parents.")

When I raised with him this apparent inconsistency of tone, Mr Lobel replied disarmingly: "I'm a little confused myself. The morals weren't at first supposed to be there.

"When I wrote them I said I wouldn't put morals in them. But it was like not dropping the other shoe not to have them—like music when you miss the final beat.

"Fables used to be cautionary tales to teach us how to behave. I didn't think they could any longer serve that function so I tried to make the morals not really serious.

"I'm almost sorry I did put them in. Everyone seems to like the stories and the controversy seems to lie with the morals."

Whether you agree with them or not, the morals and tales should provide rich material for social historians of the future. They are packed with clues to modern American attitudes.

"Satisfaction will come to those who please themselves" declares the moral at the end of a story about a camel who becomes a ballet dancer admired only by herself. This could be the motto of the "me" generation: self-gratification is paramount.

A similar idea infuses the most delightful of all the fables, about an ostrich who spends a week wooing a beautiful female in his imagination but cannot finally pluck up courage to introduce himself to her. It was a well-spent week nevertheless. "Love can be its own reward."

Although Lobel writes and draws only for children, he does not consciously think of his audience when he works. "I don't think children, I think me", he said.

"They're about my neuroses, obsessions and compulsions, which turn out to be childish. They're really about this cranky, middle-aged man that I am."

Does he find, for instance, that in his life there is too much order? "I'm a very ordered person", he explained. "Only a truly ordered person can know how destructive organization can be, how like death it can be.

"Too much of anything can lead to regret. That's the moral of the one about the hippopotamus." (He eats too much and cannot get up from the table.)

"The overriding moral is moderation in all things." But what about the prank-playing kangaroo? "That's a story about family love, the closeness of family ties."

Lobel's own children are now 21 and 25 and he finds it harder to write for youngsters now that he has none at home. "Did you know that A. A. Milne only wrote the Winnie the Pooh books when Christopher was the same age as he is in the book? When Christopher grew up Milne went back to writing for adults."

That may explain why *Fables* seems as popular with grown-ups as with children. It has led reviewers to compare Lobel with the other fable-writers—Aesop, La Fontaine and James Thurber, who wrote chiefly for adults. The comparisons irritate him.

"You don't compare anyone who writes a play with everyone else who writes a play", he points out. That could almost be a moral for another fable.

Michael Leapman

BBC SO/Dorati
Festival Hall

William Mann

In this golden jubilee season for the BBC Symphony Orchestra the conductorship of South Bank concerts is shared between present and past incumbents. So it was that Wednesday's conductor was Antal Dorati who guided the BBCSO through a difficult period in the mid-1960s. He chose to revive Roberto Gerhard's cantata *The Plague*, of which he gave the first performance during those years, and coupled it with Britten's delightful *Spring Symphony*, thus giving plentiful opportunity for admiration of the BBC Singers and Symphony Chorus, both in splendid fettle these days.

Not much has been heard of *The Plague* in the meanwhile. Albert Camus's symbolic horror-story is, alas, no less topical now than 17 years ago: as the medico-narrator remarks, towards the end, "the plague bacillus never dies, it can lie dormant for years and bide its time". Gerhard's musical setting has surely grown more approachable, the violent music still excitable, the writing for percussion no less brilliant and imaginative.

The flat narrative style of the text did not help the composer to explore, as he plainly desired, the wider implications of the disaster. The plague chorus in the middle, and the shouts of joy at the end, should convey a massive effect, but in this performance still sounded scrappy, like the factual opening. The narrative for speaker, soberly delivered by Michael Rippon, seems to keep the musical commentary too much at bay. Yet, at almost any moment, there is some masterly musical idea to engage the attention, and the whole makes a sobering experience. Obstinately I shall wait for a conductor who will cause the music to blaze.

The performance of Britten's *Spring Symphony* was blessed with appreciative soloists. Sheila Armstrong savoured the celebration of the "happy, dirty, driving-boy", lifted each of her bird-calls, in "Spring, the sweet Spring", with a special expressive touch, and duetted robustly with Anthony Rolfe-Johnson in "Fair and Fair". He was particularly persuasive in the gentle lyrical music of "Waters Above", rather too restrained for "The Merry Cuckoo", or indeed the part of Master of Ceremonies in the finale, who must proclaim forthrightly.

Sarah Walker caught ideally the relaxed, faintly anxious, chiefly idyllic eloquence of "A Summer Night", surely the emotional centre of the work, and an exquisitely crafted song. Southend Boys Choir sang out excellently in "Fly Venus and phlebotomy" (arcane instruction), a strong match for the BBC choirs. Dorati conducted a benevolent, watchful, unforced reading, very loyal, decently played, less effervescent than expected.

Telemann and all his pleasures

Barlow Baroque Players
Purcell Room

Stanley Sadie

Georg Phillip Telemann, the tercentenary of whose birth falls next month, must qualify as the most ingenious, most energetic composer of his age. His output was vast, and besides composing he taught, he played, he theorized, he organized concerts, he engraved music, he edited a monthly journal, he investigated folk dances, and in his spare time he seems to have pursued an interest in botany.

No wonder, perhaps, that his music is not of the profoundest. It rarely sounds as if it took long in gestation or was the product of deep or hard thinking. But it is unfailingly fluent, neatly and efficiently written, brimful of ideas and immensely characteristic. Wednesday's celebration of him by the Barlow Baroque Players offered a selection of his chamber music, some of it Italianate, some of it "Frenchified", some of it pure United Nations, and all of it instantly recognizable as his. His national disguises never concealed much of the real man.

The Barlow players did not much characterize the music, and the pieces that worked the best were those with long, cantabile Italian lines, in particular the two trio sonatas. One in E minor with violin and recorder seemed especially inventive, with its broad melodies and its closely imitative writing, the melody instruments sometimes following one another, sometimes diverging just enough to intrigue the ear. One in E major, would-be Corellian in style but still unmistakable Telemann, started charmingly with the line elegantly passing from violin to flute and back, again imitations with subtle differences.

The quick movements here, however, were so dully played that no amount of Telemann ingenuity could bring them to life: in the gigue finale, for example, Mr Barlow and his colleagues got through without so much as raising their eyes from the music. No wonder the effect was lethargic. In No 10 of the Paris Quartets, music demanding careful, stylish shaping, especially if it is to sound at all French, the routine interpretation drained its grace and character.

Telemann's enterprise, his wit, his cheerfulness never flagged; after all, much of his music was designed for amateur recreation. But it would have profited from a more assured instrumental command, more attentive musicianship.

SPORT

Cricket

Downton receives first cap and hope remains for Rose

From John Woodcock
Cricket Correspondent
Port of Spain, Feb 12

England's wicketkeeper in the first Test match here tomorrow will be Paul Downton, who, when he came down from Exeter University last June, seemed unlikely even to get into the Middlesex side. Before that he was with Kent, who must be wondering now how they came to let him go.

This will be Downton's first cap. The fact that he played against Trinidad recently, on the same ground, influenced the selectors (Messrs Botham, Smith, Barrington and Willis). Queen's Park has always been a difficult ground for wicketkeepers to get to know, with the ball coming through low and slowly. It had also to be taken into account that there are three spinners in the England 12 and that *Bairstow is not at his best keeping against spin.*

Old is preferred to Stevenson, and Rose, in spite of a run of low scores, will almost certainly play. What has kept Rose's hopes alive is the need for a number three. Although much thought has been given to batting Miller there, especially in view of Rose's lack of form, this has now, I think, been ruled out for the moment at any rate. Rose is described by Botham as being a good "big match player" and it does no harm his being left-handed. He also headed the English batting averages against West Indies in England last summer, failing to reach 30 in only one of his six Test innings.

Whoever is left out tomorrow — and it could be one of as many as five players, Gatting, Emburey, Miller, Willey and even Old if Gooch does some bowling — England's chances will rest heavily with the batting of Boycott and Gooch; Boycott, for the stability he brings to an innings, and Gooch, for the flair which enabled him at Lord's last June to play one of the finest of all post-war innings for England. Butcher, another who is capable of putting even the fastest bowlers out of their stride, is, rather sadly, not in the 12. It would be a more exciting side with him in it. It is likely, though, to be more of a grafter's pitch than a strokeplayer's.

There comes a time with most successful sides when, as they approach a period of transition, they become vulnerable. Lloyd's side has certainly been highly successful—since World Series Cricket was disbanded West Indies have won the World Cup and lost only one of their 15 Test matches—and the captain himself is likely to make this his last series. When West Indies go to Australia next autumn the chances are that they will be led by Richards and it is more likely to be then, as Richards takes the helm, than now, as Lloyd prepares to make way, that the ship will roll.

Lloyd's one remaining ambition as a Test captain is to lead West Indies to their first home victory over England since 1947-48. Last winter, under him, they won a series in Australia for the first time. It is the wish of every West Indian to see England beaten now—or all but a few. Banners are, in fact, being raised in Port of Spain asking people to boycott tomorrow's first match because of the omission from the West Indian side of Deryck Murray, the island's captain and a somewhat belated hero. "West Indies without Deryck is like PNM without Eric", one of them says, the PNM being Trinidad's ruling People's National Movement and Doctor Eric Williams being their erstwhile leader.

David Murray, who has taken his namesake's place, is the innocent victim of all this, and he is no great wicketkeeper. "The episode", Lloyd says, "shows again the considerable regional pressures that players face when playing at home." Put another way, it is one of the reasons why West Indies do find it difficult to do themselves justice out here. History also shows, and the authorities know it, that it is from such disputes as this that greater troubles flow. There will be no leave for the riot squad this weekend.

To umpire the match Douglas Sang Hue has been recalled. As one of Kerry Packer's senior umpires Sang Hue must shoulder some of the responsibility for the growing need of helmets. Under his control some chilling cricket was played in Australia during the controversial winters of 1977-78 and 1978-79. His last first-class match as an umpire was the first Test against Australia (without their WSC players) in March, 1978, whereafter the Australians objected to him.

He is, however, more experienced than anyone else, and Denness's side thought well of him when he stood in all their five Test matches in 1973-74. *Sang Hue's partner tomorrow will* be Clyde Cumberbatch, who although he has not been at it for long (he has umpired fewer than half a dozen first-class matches) looked to have a fair grip on things in England's recent match.

WEST INDIES (from): C. H. Lloyd (captain), S. F. A. Bacchus, C. E. Croft, J. Garner, H. A. Gomes, C. G. Greenidge, D. L. Haynes, M. A. Holding, E. H. Mattis, D. A. Murray, R. Nanan, I. V. A. Richards, A. M. E. Roberts.

ENGLAND (from): G. Boycott (Yorkshire), G. A. Gooch (Essex), B. C. Rose (Somerset), D. I. Gower (Leicestershire), M. W. Gatting (Middlesex), I. T. Botham (Somerset), G. Miller (Derbyshire), P. Willey (Northamptonshire), P. R. Downton (Middlesex), J. E. Emburey (Middlesex), C. M. Old (Yorkshire), G. R. Dilley (Kent).



Downton : now the student faces a difficult graduation on relatively familiar ground

India rubber men elated

Auckland, Feb 12.—The Indian team arrived here for their New Zealand tour tonight, still elated by their Test success against Australia in Melbourne yesterday. Wing Commander Shahid Durrani, the manager, said: "We have won a Test in Australia before, but this was the first time we have drawn a rubber and it has set us up nicely for the New Zealand tour". India bowled out Australia for 83 in the second innings to draw the series 1—1.

Sunil Gavaskar, the captain, expressed regret for staying at the crease when given out lbw in the second innings and then appearing to call Chetan Chauhan off the field. "It was just something that went off inside me which I hope will never happen again to me, or to any of the Indian team".

Commenting on Australian umpires, Gavaskar said they left a lot to be desired, but added: "Umpiring mistakes occur in every country and I think they should be taken in the right spirit. Unfortunately, with so many Test matches being played now, so much travel, so much pressure to win with so much money involved, I think there are times when losers lose their cool".

Test averages at end of Indian tour of Australia

Indian batting

	Inns	NO	Runs	HS	Avge
S. M. Patil	6	1	311	174	62.20
C. P. S. Chauhan	6	—	249	97	41.50
S. Yadav	3	2	36	20*	36.00
G. R. Viswanath	6	—	213	114	35.50
S. M. H. Kirmani	6	1	124	43*	24.80
D. B. Vengsarkar	6	—	148	41	24.67
S. M. Gavaskar	6	—	118	70	19.67
Y. Sharma	6	—	83	47	13.83
K. D. Ghavri	6	2	49	21	12.25
Kapil Dev	6	—	55	22	9.17
D. R. Doshi	5	2	13	7	4.33
R. Binny	2	—	3	3	1.50

*Not out

Bowling

	Overs	Mdns	Runs	Wkts	Avge
S. M. Patil	14.3	4	33	2	16.50
Kapil Dev	120.5	26	333	14	23.79
K. D. Ghavri	115	20	370	10	37.00
S. Yadav	103.4	18	313	8	39.13
D. R. Doshi	187	40	440	11	40.00

ALSO BOWLED: R. Binny, 15—1—70—0; C. P. S. Chauhan, 3—0—18—0.

Australian batting

	Inns	NO	Runs	HS	Avge
G. S. Chappell	5	—	368	204	73.60
K. D. Walters	5	2	216	78	72.00
K. J. Hughes	5	—	333	213	66.60
A. R. Border	5	—	228	124	45.60
R. M. Hogg	2	[illegible]	37	26*	37.00
G. M. Wood	5	—	157	125	31.40
R. W. Marsh	5	—	83	45	16.60
J. Dyson	5	—	77	30	15.40
D. K. Lillee	5	1	40	19	10.00
L. S. Pascoe	4	1	17	7	5.67
B. Yardley	4	—	21	12	5.25
J. D. Higgs	3	1	3	2	1.50

Bowling

	Overs	Mdns	Runs	Wkts	Avge
L. S. Pascoe	109	27	299	16	18.69
D. K. Lillee	148.3	33	452	21	21.53
G. S. Chappell	20	10	37	1	37.00
A. R. Border	15	6	28	1	28.00
B. Yardley	112.4	43	225	7	32.14
J. D. Higgs	52	13	151	4	37.75
R. M. Hogg	54	8	186	4	46.50

ALSO BOWLED: K. D. Walters, 9—3—33—0; K. J. Hughes, 1—0—1—0.

Rugby Union

Hawick hope to put the champions in their place

Leicester, the John Player Cup holders, have rejected the proposal to form a national league for the country's leading clubs. The Leicester committee, who agreed last May to support the principle of merit tables, remained opposed to the suggestion despite the club captain and England hooker, Peter Wheeler, publicly declaring himself in favour of leagues and the support given him by the club coach, H. V. "Chalkie" White.

Leicester are one of several English clubs who meet Welsh opposition tomorrow. They entertain Newport at Welford Road while Bristol travel to Cardiff, Harlequins to Llanelli, Pontypool are in London playing Saracens and Newbridge take on Exeter in the West Country. The Welsh selectors have still to finalise the team to meet Ireland in Cardiff next week, and will be in force at the Gnoll where Neath entertain Swansea.

The promising Neath full back, Jonathon Griffith, their leading points scorer in his first full season in senior rugby, has emerged as a candidate to oust J. P. R. Williams. The Swansea scrum half, Brynmor Williams, and lock, Wheel, have a last chance to re-establish their reputations but the centre, David Richards, whose international future is also at risk, misses the game because of a wedding.

Llanelli have two reasons for celebration. In training Nicholas showed no ill effects after a knee injury at Murrayfield and will be back on the wing, while Jeff Griffith, the Wales B wing, returns on the other flank after a cartilage operation. It will be his first match since he played against the Harlequins at Twickenham in September.

*Bert Greaves, the Moseley tight-*head prop who three seasons ago played in England's final trial and scored two tries on his first Barbarians appearance, emerges from the shadow cast by injury. Greaves, now 32, has won his battle against a severe neck injury which threatened to end his career in the police force as well as his rugby-playing days.

He has also won the fight for his former position against Acaster, aged 23, who joined the club from Dudley Kingswinford at the start of the season and graduated *to a first team place within* a month. After last week's defeat by Wasps, Moseley are giving Greaves his chance in the home match against Northampton, when they hope for a double over their struggling Midland rivals.

In 18 months, Greaves has played one first team game. He missed the whole of last season because of the spinal injury and, after reporting fit at the start of this season, suffered a hamstring strain during training. Tight head *prop is* one of several positions still undecided as Moseley prepare for their fourth round cup tie at Exeter on February 28.

NORTHERN DIVISION

	P	W	D	L	F	A	%
Waterloo	5	5	0	0	100	27	100
Gosforth	4	4	0	0	64	28	100
Harrogate	7	6	1	0	101	64	92.85
Sale	4	3	0	1	63	40	75.00
Morley	9	6	1	2	91	71	72.22
Orrell	7	4	0	3	88	64	57.14
Fylde	8	4	0	4	145	110	50.00
Liverpool	8	4	0	4	85	79	50.00
Roundhay	7	2	3	2	62	72	50.00
Broughton	8	3	0	5	84	111	37.50
Northern	3	1	0	2	37	40	33.33
Wakefield	9	2	1	6	88	152	27.78
W Hartlepool	6	1	0	5	47	79	16.67
Sheffield	7	1	0	6	60	102	14.28
Hartlepool R	8	1	0	7	69	143	12.50

LONDON DIVISION

	P	W	D	L	F	A	%
Lond Scots	7	6	1	0	84	39	92.80
Rosslyn Park	6	5	0	1	135	55	83.33
Harlequins	4	2	2	0	49	24	75.00
Wasps	7	4	0	3	105	75	57.14
Richmond	9	4	1	4	105	97	50.00
Lond Welsh	4	2	0	2	59	67	50.00
Lond Irish	7	3	0	4	81	99	42.86
Met Police	7	2	0	5	68	111	28.57
Saracens	6	1	0	5	43	84	16.67
Blackheath	7	1	0	6	64	127	14.28

SOUTH AND WEST DIVISION

	P	W	D	L	F	A	%
Bristol	4	3	0	1	43	16	75.00
Exeter	5	3	1	1	71	43	70.00
Gloucester	3	2	0	1	32	12	66.66
Plymouth	4	2	1	1	59	37	62.50
Bath	4	0	2	2	13	47	25.00
Camborne	4	0	0	4	36	99	—

MIDLAND DIVISION

	P	W	D	L	F	A	%
Leicester	7	6	1	0	169	84	92.85
Moseley	8	6	1	1	186	71	81.25
Nuneaton	5	3	0	2	56	37	60.00
Nottingham	6	3	1	2	95	79	58.33
Bedford	7	4	0	3	91	101	57.14
Coventry	8	3	1	4	147	97	43.75
Northampton	7	2	1	4	103	133	35.71
Birmingham	7	1	0	6	48	190	14.28

Hawick in practical mood

By Iain Mackenzie

The Scottish club championship resumes tomorrow after the traditional mid-winter break. The most important games are in the Borders where the first and second division titles should be won and lost; although the outsiders might disagree.

In television terms, the "match of the day" will be at Mansfield Park, Hawick, home of Scotland's most successful club over the years. Hawick are taking unkindly to the current supremacy of their rivals, Gala, and with Deans, Renwick and Tomes free from national commitments, anticipate a full house and a full measure of points from their meeting with the champions.

Gala also hope to put their best XV into action and if they do there will be an interesting side issue. The Scottish selectors left one of the replacement positions vacant for the game with England at Twickenham next week and the two contenders are from Gala.

Dickson, who played against France but was dropped to the bench thereafter, has been omitted from the named replacements. It may well be that, if his colleague in the second row, Tom Smith does well against Tomes in tomorrow's game, Dickson will be discarded entirely and Smith installed. Should this happen it will be hard on Dickson, one of Scotland's most hard-working flankers. He has already had to make room for another club colleague, Leslie, in the Scottish side.

On paper and taking individual strength into consideration, Gala will beat Hawick and take a big step towards becoming the first side, Hawick apart, to retain the Scottish championship since Heriot's FP did it in 1928. Paper is one thing, fact another. In this case the fact is that Gala have often threatened to do all kinds of nasty things to Hawick and failed at the last moment. The same thing is likely to happen tomorrow.

In the second division, Jedforest's chances of reaching the top division for the first time (they are the only Border club never to have played in that company) depend on the result of their home match against Selkirk. Their Border neighbours lead the second division and should they win at Riverside, they and their closest challengers, Jordanhill, will be sure to go up.

Smith to manage

Ken Smith, a 49-year-old Border farmer and a former British Lions rugby forward, has been appointed manager of the Scotland party who will play eight games, including two internationals, in New Zealand between May 27 and June 20. Mr Smith (Kelso) played 18 times for Scotland between 1957 and 1961 and took part in four internationals during the 1959 Lions tour to Australia and New Zealand. Jim Telfer (Melrose), the present national coach, has been appointed assistant manager and coach to the tour party.

Table tennis

Potton sets out to convince the selectors

By a Special Correspondent

With England's two stars Desmond Douglas and John Hilton hastening back from Sweden and then cruising comfortably through to the last eight of the Norwich Union English closed championships at Gillingham yesterday, the focus switches to three players lower in the rankings fighting for the remaining two places in the world championship squad for Novisad in April.

Graham Sandley, seeded five, was beaten 18—21, 21—17, 14—21, 21—18, 21—12, by the determined England coach, Donald Parker, not so long ago at no 4 in the list himself. Douggie Johnson, seeded seven but the new England no 4, came through for a quarter-final encounter with Hilton, while the controversial Bob Potton, seeded three, now plays Parker.

Potton, who beat another former England international, Jimmy Walker, 21—17, 21—14, 21—19, believes he has to reach the final to convince the selectors that his talent, which has never bee nin doubt, is worth putting in the squad for Yugoslavia.

If Potton does not make the squad this time—and he missed both the last world and European teams—he says he would seriously consider giving up any prospect of a future with England. His anxiety to do well already shows in his play and there is no doubt that the next two days are crucial for the career of the aggressive, hard-*looping England international.*

If he beats Parker he may play Hilton, but even that is not certain because the celebrated England No 2 has been so disappointing recently that he has had 18 losses in the last four weeks. Potton beat Hilton immediately after he had won his European title, but he could just as easily find himself playing against another combination bat player in Johnson, a tenacious retriever.

There was a repeat of the 1978 final when Paul Day, seeded sixth, once again beat the Clevelander Nicky Jarvis, once an England regular but now slipped to 11 in the list. The score was 21—9, 11—21, 21—13, 21—15, and now Day, recently moved up to three in the rankings, meets the third seed Max Crimmins, with the winner likely to play the holder, Desmond Douglas, who also reached the last eight. Douglas is attempting his third successive title and his fourth in all.



RESULTS: Men's singles: First round: D. Douglas beat R. Namdiou, 21—12, 21—17, 21—4; G. Lambert beat P. Beck, 21—9, 21—12, 21—9; A. Fletcher beat M. Oakley, 21—18, 21—12, 21—12; N. Eckersley beat C. Chapman, 21—10, 21—7, 21—13; M. Francis beat M. Sheader, 21—16, 26—24, 15—21, 21—7; L. Smith w o D. Harding, scr; J. Payne beat C. Prean, 13—21, 21—15, 18—21, 22—20, 21—15; K. Jackson beat J. Burleton, 21—12, 21—11, 21—16; P. Day beat S. Proffitt, 21—8, 21—8, 21—12; R. Oldfield w o D. Constance scr; D. Dodds beat P. Bradbury, 22—20, 19—21, 21—17, 21—12; J. Souter beat B. Johns, 21—15, 19—21, 21—11, 21—15; R. Potton beat A. Lamprell, 21—9, 21—16, 21—18; R. *Jermyn beat D. Barr, 21—10, 22—20,* 21—18; J. Walker beat I. Kenyon, 21—13, 10—21, 21—10, 21—9; N. Jarvis beat C. Wilson, 16—21, 14—21, 21—13, 21—14, 21—10; I. Horsham beat B. Adego, 15—12, 13—21, 21—16, 23—21, 21—13; K. Fellows w/o S. Harmer; M. Crimmins beat W. Percival, 17—21, 21—17, 21—17, 21—12; B. Johnson beat G. Baker, 18—21, 21—10, 21—6, 18—21, 21—11; M. Mitchell beat S. Holloway, 21—15, 21—14, 23—23; P. McQueen beat T. Martin, 21—13, 21—12, 21—10; D. Parker beat S. Moore, 21—14, 21—17, 21—14; G. Sandley beat S. Battrick, 21—11, 21—12, 21—16; D. Johnson beat J. Kennedy, 21—9, 21—14, 21—[illegible]; K. Richardson beat M. Smith, 21—12, 21—14, 21—13; S. Mills beat M. Buist, 19—21, 21—10, 21—13, 21—16; J. Kitchener beat S. *Andrew,* 21—13, 21—17, 21—18; J. Proffitt beat P. Namdiou, 21—19, 15—21,



15—21, 22—20, 21—13; K. Satchell beat P. D'Arcy, 21—9, 15—21, 21—9, 21—15; D. Wells beat A. Wellman, 21—17, 8—21, 23—21, 20—22, 21—16; J. Hilton beat L. Earle, 21—16, 21—19, 21—13.

Second round: Douglas beat Lambert, 21—11, 21—18, 21—6; Francis beat Smith, 21—9, 21—6, 21—19; Day beat Oldfield, 21—9, 21—12, 21—10; Jarvis beat Dodds, 21—11, 21—11, 21—13; Crimmins beat Fellows, 21—13, 21—10, 23—21.

Day beat Jarvis, 21—9, 11—21, 21—13, 21—15; Potton beat Walker, 21—17, 21—14, 21—19; Parker beat Mitchell, 21—17, 21—11, 21—16; Johnson beat Mills, 16—21, 21—10, 21—7, 21—9; Hilton beat Satchell, 21—15, 21—19, 21—18.

Eckersley beat Fletcher, 21—15, 10—21, 21—16, 15—21, 21—15; Jackson beat Payne, 17—21, 21—7, 21—4, 21—17; Horsham beat Souter, 21—9, 17—21, 21—14, 16—21, 21—11; Potton beat Jermyn, 25—23, 21—18, 21—8; Walker beat B. Johnson, 21—16, 21—12, 23—20; Mitchell beat McQueen, 21—12, 21—10, 17—21, 21—15; Parker beat Sandley, 19—21, 21—17, 14—21, 21—18, 21—16; D. Johnson beat Richardson, 19—2, 21—14, 21—15, 21—18; Mills beat Kitchener, 22—24, 22—20, 21—18, 21—13; Satchell beat Proffitt, 21—11, 21—17, 15—21, 21—9; Hilton beat Wells, 21—13, 21—10, 21—17.

Third round: Douglas beat Eckersley, 21—8, 21—11, 21—6; Jackson beat *Francis,* 21—18, 21—16, 21—19; Crimmins beat Horsham, 21—16, 21—18, 21—16.

American ice dance champions are going to have a ball at the world championships

Mentor who can turn memories into medals

It appears from the report of their trainer that the American *ice dance champions,* Judy Blumberg and Michael Seibert, are likely to offer a stronger challenge for the world title at Hartford, Connecticut next month than had at first seemed likely. This is daunting news for Jayne Torvill and Christopher Dean, who will hope to add that garland to the European title they won in Innsbruck last week.

The woman guiding the American effort, Doreen MacSalka, is not exactly unknown over here. As Doreen Denny she won the world championship for Britain with Courtney Jones in 1959 and 1960. She returned my telephone call a day or two ago at 11 am here, 4 am at her home in Colorado Springs after what she called an early night. Ordinarily, she would be working from 11 pm to 6 am, which puts into perspective the complaint made in this country of skaters having to lead a nocturnal life to perfect their art.

Mrs MacSalka was "really thrilled" by the British victory in Innsburck, not not in the least surprised. "Jayne and Chris" she said, "have a lot to offer. They are srong in the compulsories and do a good free dance. I am pleased that the Russian stranglehold in Europe has been broken. I realize that the Hungarians beat them to the world title last year, but they have since retired. Now along comes a British couple to win the European. It's very exciting". The Russian style was "much of a muchness".

She was not willing to tempt providence with extravagent claims on behalf of her couple. "They'll be there," was as far as she would go, but her bubbling enthusiasm harnessed to the memory of their performance in the world championships at Dortmund last year inspires the belief that Miss Blumberg and her partner could well be challengers for the gold medal.

The organizing committee have been enterprising enough to round off the week with the ice dance,



World champions Doreen Denny and Courtney Jones: "We just went out there to enjoy ourselves"

rather than the usual insipid women's free. They have sold all 12,000 seats for the last night, so we may be sure of a heady atmosphere. Might that not act against the American interest, especially in view of the new mood of born-again patriotism? Might not Miss Blumberg and Seibert be overawed by national expectation?

"Good heavens, no." Miss MacSalka replied. "They'll just love every moment of it."

She was reminded of her own experience a generation ago. "Courtney and I just went out there to enjoy ourselves" she said, and they're just the same. They'll have a ball and they'll want every last spectator to join them". This had apparently happened during the United States championships held at San Diego recently in unusual circumstances. One of Seibert's bootstraps had come undone halfway through their programme and he and Miss Blumberg were offered a choice of starting from where they left off or from the beginning. Mrs MacSalka decreed that they would have to start again; otherwise the effect of their performance would be ruined. "They gave me a hard look" she said, "then they went out and brought the house down". Their marks ranged from 5.7 to 5.9.

The three *of them have come* a long way together in a short time. Ice dancers as a rule take several years to mature. Yet it was only on October 11, 1979 (she could not recall why the date stuck so clearly in her mind even at 4 in the morning) that they started what has become a highly successful relationship. In only their second season they surpassed their national champions in both the Olympics and the world championships at Dortmund.

Since finishing sixth at Dort*mund, they have seen the* Hungarian winners turn professional, the second placed Russians (Natalia Linichuk and Gennadi Karponosov) dropped from the national team, and the fifth placed Canadian couple disappear because, according to one Canadian official, they knew the Americans would have the beating of them. That left only two couples above them, Irina Moiseyeva and Andrei Minenkov, of the Soviet Union, third then but recently beaten in Europe by Miss Torvill and Dean, and of course the British couple, fourth in Dortmund and now first in Europe.

Some believe, curiously enough, that the disappearance of Miss Linichuk and her partner might create a four-way tussle, involving also their compatriots, Natalia Bestemianova and Andrei Bukin.

John Hennessy

Football

FA increase Palace's plight by banning trio

Crystal Palace's slide towards the second division accelerated yesterday when three players, including their captain Jim Cannon, were suspended by an FA disciplinary commission. Cannon and another key defender, the England under-21 player Billy Gilbert miss next Tuesday's home game against Coventry City and the trip to Aston Villa, along with young midfield player Steve Lovell. Cannon, who received a four-match ban for reaching 30 points, will also miss the home game against Everton and the trip to West Bromwich Albion, when the others will be available again.

Dario Gradi, Palace's new manager refused to comment after the hearing, but he said before accompanying his players in to the meeting: "I can tell you now what I will have to say. We had a very fair hearing and I am disappointed to lose any players at this stage of the season. I will not say anything more because I do not want to find myself back at the FA next week facing a charge of bringing the game into disrepute."

After the meeting Gradi strode away from the FA headquarters, refusing to let his players comment on the decisions which will make his task of avoiding relegation almost impossible.

Cannon, a Scot, has been an ever-present throughout Palace's troubles this season until the automatic one-match suspension which followed his dismissal for spitting at an opponent in the 2—0 defeat at Middlesbrough. That offence, in Mr Gradi's first match as manager, took him straight past the 30-point mark and caused him to miss last weekend's defeat at Ipswich, along with Tony Sealy, also sent off at Middlesbrough. Lovell, a Welsh teenager, was establishing himself as a regular before his ttwo-match ban. Gilbert has played in all but one of Palace's games.

All three will be sorely missed, especially as Mr Gradi has injury doubts about his goalkeepers Paul Barron and Terry Gennoe, the former England midfield player Gerry Francis, and the transfer seeking Vince Hilaire.

Brighton, another club threatened by relegation, were also hit when their captain, Brian Horton, was suspended for three games for reaching 20 points. The stiff ban which is normal at this stage in the season rules him out of next Tuesday's match against Southampton, another home game against Liverpool and the trip to fellow strugglers Norwich.

Horton, 31, has only missed a handful of games since joining Brighton from Port Vale at a bar*gain £35,000 in 1976 and is a key* figure in Brighton's midfield.

The Brighton manager Alan Mullery said: "I am disappointed for Brian. I expected the disciplinary commission to be more lenient with him. This adds to our problems, but we will keep battling away."

Horton commented: "This is the last thing I wanted. I am very, very disappointed. The suspension has happened at the wrong time for us."

Neil McNab, another Brighton midfield player also faces an FA hearing next week for accumulating 20 points.

Plea for Brady's presence falls on deaf Italian ears

Republic of Ireland officials are keen to secure Liam Brady's release for a World Cup "warm-up" game against Wales. Brady *was included* yesterday in a squad of 19 for the match in Dublin on February 24, but so far Ireland's approach to his Italian club, Juventus, has met with silence. The manager, Eoin Hand, said: "I've sent three telex messages to Liam, but so far I have received no reply. I am hoping he will be able to play, but until I get a reply the position is unclear."

Ireland's other overseas player, Walsh, has been cleared to play by his Portuguese club, Porto. But Brady's former colleagues, O'Leary *and Stapleton, are ruled out* by club commitments—Arsenal play Manchester City at Highbury the same night—and the Brighton trio, Lawrenson, Ryan and Robinson, may also have to withdraw.

Brighton's home game against Southampton, postponed from Saturday because of the FA Cup, has been rearranged for next week. But if Southampton and Everton draw their fifth round tie, Lawrenson, Ryan and Robinson will face Southampton on February 24, instead of the Welsh.

There is also a doubt about the full back, Chris Hughton, kept out of the Tottenham side since Boxing Day by an ankle injury. The goalkeeper Jim McDonagh, and winger, O'Keefe, both of Everton, are included for the first time on the strength of parental qualification. But another Everton player, McMahon, has resisted the temptation of an Irish cap. McMahon hopes to play for England.

Two Liverpool players, Whelan and Sheedy, are named in the Republic's under-21 squad for the game with England on February 25, at Anfield. They are joined by six full internationals, Devine, McGee, Donovan, Anderson, Chandler and Waddock.

The Orient utility player, Henry Hughton—brother of the Tottenham full back—is also named. Much interest will centre on the Bohemians defender, Jack McDonagh, aged 18. He has been watched by several clubs and Manchester United and Tottenham could be chasing his signature. The three over-age players, Devine, McGee and Donovan, have all agreed to step down for the occasion.

The performance of the Bolton *centre back,* McElhinney, *against* Francis in the FA Cup games *against Nottingham Forest* has won him a place in the Northern Ireland squad. McElhinney, who joined Bolton from Distillery six months ago, has been called up for a training session on February 23-24 which includes a match against Birmingham City at St Andrews. It is part of the build-up for the World Cup qualifying game against Scotland at Hampden Park on March 25. The team manager, Billy Bingham, said yesterday: "He has slotted perfectly into English league football."

The Southend United striker, Spence, and Manchester United reserve midfielder, Sloan, are recalled while the Irish also welcome back the Arsenal goalkeeper, Jennings, who has not played for his country because of injuries and club commitments since last March.

REPUBLIC OF IRELAND PARTY (v Wales): G. Peyton (Fulham), J. McDonagh (Everton), D. Langan (Birmingham), C. Hughton (Tottenham), K. Moran (Manchester United), M. Lawrenson (Brighton), G. Daly (Coventry), A. Grealish (Luton), L. Brady (Juventus), M. Robinson (Brighton), M. Walsh (Porto), S. Heighway (Liverpool), A. Grimes (Manchester United), I. Nolan (Limerick), D. Givens (Birmingham), G. Ryan (Brighton), E. O'Keefe (Everton), J. Murphy (Crystal Palace), B. O'Callaghan (Stoke).

REPUBLIC OF IRELAND UNDER-21 PARTY (v England): P. Bonner (Celtic), N. Henderson (Shamrock R), Whelan (Manchester United), B. Kilcline (Notts County), J. Anderson (Preston), J. McDonagh (Bohemians), J. Devine (Arsenal), H. Hughton (Orient), H. Atkinson (Wolverhampton), G. Waddock (QP Rangers), R. Whelan (Liverpool), K. Sheedy (Liverpool), T. O'Connor (Athlone Town), J. Chandler (Leeds), A. Kinsella (Millwall), P. McGee (Preston), K. O'Callaghan (Ipswich), T. Donovan (Aston Villa), T. Buckley (Shamrock R).

NORTHERN IRELAND TRAINING SQUAD: G. Armstrong (Watford), R. Blackledge (Glentoran), N. Brotherston (Blackburn), T. Cassidy (Burnley), T. Cochrane (Middlesbrough), M. Donaghy (Luton), T. Finney (Cambridge United), W. Hamilton (Burnley), P. Jennings (Arsenal), J. McClelland (Mansfield), D. McCreery (QP Rangers), G. McElhinney (Bolton), S. McIlroy (Manchester United), S. Nelson (Arsenal), C. Nicholl (Southampton), J. Nicholl (Manchester United), J. O'Neill (Leicester), M. O'Neill (Nottingham Forest), J. Platt (Middlesbrough), T. Sloan (Manchester United), D. Spence (Southend).

Alkmaar have seven in Dutch squad

Zeist (Netherlands), Feb 12.—Seven players from the current Dutch league leaders, AZ'67 Alkmaar, are included in a 22-man squad today for The Netherlands' World Cup Group Two qualifying match against Cyprus in Groningen on February 22.

Jan Zwartkruis resigned as coach last month following criticism of his team's performances in World Cup qualifying matches and the Gold Cup tournament in Uruguay. A successor is expected to be announced next week.

SQUAD: P. Arntz, H. Hovenkamp, R. Spelbos, J. Metgod, J. Peters, P. Tol, J. Jonker (all AZ'67 Alkmaar), P. Doesburg, M. Valke, W. van de Korkhof, E. Brandts (PSV Eindhoven), J. Hiele, P. Vermeulen, B. Wijnstekers (Feyenoord), D. Nanninga (Roda JC Kerkrade), C. Schapendonk (MVV Maastricht), T. La Ling (Ajax), H. van Breukelen (FC Utrecht), T. van Mierlo (Willem II, Tilburg), R. Zondervan (*Twente Enschede*), F. Thijssen (Ipswich Town), J. Dusbaba (Anderlecht).—Reuter.

Hoddle in danger of missing cup tie

Glenn Hoddle is doubtful for Tottenham Hotspur's FA Cup fifth round match against Coventry City tomorrow after taking a kick on the calf in training yesterday. Hoddle went home on crutches and has been told to rest. "It's a bit sore and I will not know whether Hoddle will be fit until Saturday", Tottenham's manager Keith *Burkinshaw* said. "It's very worrying and we can only hope the injury responds to a combination of treatment and rest". Better news for Mr Burkinshaw is that Hughton, Tottenham's full back, is fit for his first game of the year.

Hughton, chosen yesterday by the Republic of Ireland for the match against Wales, turned an ankle on Boxing Day. His return will help to compensate for the possible loss of Hoddle who has missed only one match this season—against Stoke City.

Coventry, who lost to West Ham United in the League Cup semi-final round on Tuesday, expect to give the same players a chance at Spurs. Their manager Gordon Milne insisted: "The West Ham game was the worst we have played in our 12 cup games this season and to have a second in a week is a bonus."

Manchester City, who were also stopped one match short of Wembley, similarly plan to power back, at Peterborough. Ranson, who limped off at Liverpool, is out but Hutchison, Gow and McDonald return. Peterborough's only doubt is their midfield player, Hodgson, recovering from a badly gashed ankle.

Ipswich Town, the cup favourites, should be strengthened by the return of their England defender Mills against Charlton Athletic, of the third division. But Burley, the club's other full back, is still sidelined with knee ligament trouble. Mills is likely to replace Beattie with Osman returning to centre half counter Hales.

Barnsley, who also figure in a first division v third division battle, are without their Welsh defender, Evans, at Middlesbrough. Evans has been banned for two games by an FA disciplinary committee.

Nottingham Forest players returned yesterday from their game in Japan looking tired after their 16-hour plane journey and were promptly sent home to bed by their manager Brian Clough. *Forest play Bristol City at home* tomorrow but Mr Clough is confident his players will have recovered from the Tokyo trip.

Maradona ready to move in $9m deal

Buenos Aires, Feb 12. — The president of Argentinos Juniors said today the transfer of Diego Maradona to Boca Juniors "is arranged" in a deal reported valued at $9m. Prospero Consoli, the Juniors president, said the two clubs still have to agree some of the details of the transfer arranged in a meeting late yesterday.

Mr Consoli said one of the details still under discussion is which four players on a list of 11 will be taken from Boca Juniors as part of the transfer. But he said that next Wednesday the two teams will play a friendly match at a neutral pitch in which Maradona will play the first period for Argentinos Juniors and the second period for Boca Juniors. Boca Juniors released a statement saying there was an "almost total agreement" on the transfer of the 20-year-old Maradona.

No to neighbours: Bristol Rovers have turned down a £250,000 bid from their neighbours, Bristol City, for Gary Mabbutt, aged 19, last season's England youth captain. The deal would have involved £100,000 *in cash plus* defenders, Merrick and Mann. Rovers player-manager, Terry Cooper, said, "Gary is only interested in moving to a first division club".

Osborne, the Ipswich Town midfield player who scored the winning goal in the 1978 FA Cup final, has signed for the third division club, Colchester United, for £25,000.

Today's fixture

FOURTH DIVISION: Stockport County v Wimbledon (7.30).

Athletics

Hooper gets chance to vault against the world's best

Brian Hooper, having established himself as Britain's outstanding pole vaulter of all time, could challenge the world's best at next weekend's European indoor championships at Grenoble.

Unbeaten in major events this winter, he travels to France as one of a 16-strong British team. The 27-year-old from Woking, who improved his outdoor best by 7½ inches last year and came eleventh in the Olympic final, said: "Being realistic it will be tough to get among the medals because I will be tackling three good Russians, the French, Poles and West Germans."

Hooper, who raised the British indoor record to 5.41 metres against East Germany on Wednesday night, adds however: "I have beaten the French and Germans and am sure I can go over 18 feet indoors this season—and what better time to do it than at the Europeans?"

He is likely to meet the joint world indoor record-holders Konstantin Volkov (Soviet Union) and Thierry Vigneron (France), both of whom have cleared 5.70 metres. David Shaw, the secretary of the British amateur athletic board, admits many of the team are going to gain experience, but has high hopes for Hooper.

"Brian is on the verge of great things in the pole vault and these championships may be the time when he will emerge," said Mr Shaw.

Verona Elder, who has won three European indoor 400-metre titles, and Wendy Hoyte, unbeaten over 60 metres this season, have tough assignments after being decisively defeated by East Germans. Selwyn Clarke (50 metres) Mike Whittingham (800 metres) and Ken Newton (… metres) are rewarded after consistent performances.

Mr Shaw is not expecting much from the team. "We are using the European championships as a guide to greater things and would not be too disappointed if we come back with no medals."

Sebastian Coe, who broke the world indoor 800 metres record against East Germany, will not be competing in Grenoble. The 24-year-old Loughborough student, who had only run once indoors previously this season, said: "I am not going to Grenoble because it does not fit in with my course *studies.*"

The Olympic 1,500 metres champion plans to run in the Hyde Park Relay on February …

TEAM: Men: 50 metres: S. C… 400 metres: A. Bennett; 800 metres: M. Whittingham; 3,000 metres: … Newton; high jump: M. Naylor; … jump: A. Moore; pole vault: B. H… K. Stock; shot put: M. Winch. W… 50 metres: W. Hoyte, 400 metres: … Elder; 800 metres K. McDermott; … metres: G. Dainty; 50 metres hu… Y. Wray; shot put: A. Littlewood … Head.

Golden marathon: The International Amateur Athletic Federation (IAAF) is to stage a Golden Marathon as part of its series of golden races for 1982. It will be run from Marathon to Athens, the 42-kilometre traditional …

The IAAF's 1981 Golden … are:

June 7, Golden 5,000 metres, … head, June 19 Golden 10,000 m… Prague, August 21: Golden … (100-200 metre sprints); … August 28: Golden Mile, Brussels.

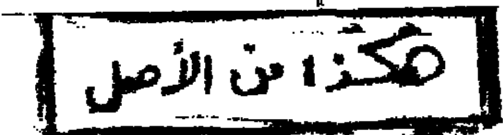
London Marathon: Organizers of the London Marathon, which will be run through the streets of the capital on March 29, estimate 1,500 of the 6,600 British … will cover the 26 miles 385 … course in less than three h…

Mathebula defence

Johannesburg, Feb 12.—The WBA flyweight champion, Peter Mathebula, of South Africa will defend his title against Japan's Shigeo Nakajima on March 28, in Soweto. Mathebula will earn about $130,000, Nakajima $10,000.—Reuter.

Hadlee returns

Richard Hadlee, New Ze… Test player, will return to … for Nottinghamshire. He sa… was leaving English cricket a… end of last season, becau… the strains of playing throu… the year, but has had a ch… of heart.



A time for Charlton to discover if they have the means to upstage the past

Team to stir The Valley's echoes

A personal abiding image of Charlton Athletic owes nothing to the high points of their football career just before and after the war. It concerns the colossal terrace that turned a South London valley into The Valley, a place of youthful awe before it became too big for diminishing crowds.

Now there are reassuring plans to bring up to date this old stately home of Bartram, Hewie, Leary, Welsh, the Gliksten family whose support goes back 50 years, and Jimmy Seed, the inspiration behind a crossing of the abyss between third and first divisions in record time between 1934 and 1936.

The place will not be the same but infinitely better, for the memory is full of romantic glossy pictures. A visit to The Valley in bumper days of the fifties was fodder for today's reminiscences, which are as idyllic as memories of long summer bicycle rides that sometimes must have been uphill and against the wind. A companion on excursions to first division games there would often recall that after the final whistle his feet "never touched the ground", until beyond the crush at the gates.

Visits to The Valley in recent years have been dulled by too many comparisons, but it is pleasing to see them returning on the road out of the third division and earning a place in the last sixteen in the FA Cup. Tomorrow they face the daunting challenge of a fifth round tie at Ipswich from where this season no visitor has come away with anything more than a pleasant memory of how the game ought to be played and people should be treated.

Of course, Charlton have no chance on the evidence of Ipswich's unbeaten home form, the guile of the Dutchmen, Thijssen and Muhren, the athletic power of the England centre forward, Mariner, Brazil's fiery attacking aggression and two stout central defenders, Osman and Butcher, who are seen by some as Ron Greenwood's successors to Thompson and Watson. So who in particular does Mike Bailey, the Charlton manager and former player, fear? "All of them," he confesses, basing his honest apprehension on a sighting of Ipswich's 3—0 defeat of Shrewsbury in a replay last month.

Hopes that Charlton would at least put up a presentable struggle were not improved by last Saturday's 4—0 defeat at Chester, which enabled Rotherham to move into the lead on goal difference. Even so it has to be remembered that Charlton were relegated from the second division only last season after finishing with just six victories, none of them away from home.

Perhaps, in the knowledge that the side who went from Third to First Division in the thirties was hardly altered, Mr Bailey has made no dramatic changes this season. Walsh, only 18, has been the source of some fresh inspiration, joining or competing for a place with the more experienced Hales in an attack that has kept attention away from a less reliable defence. Encouraging "good habits" Mr Bailey insists is the real change he has made, and though it sounds simplistic, the art of finding each other when moving from defence to attack was not always obvious to the players last season.

Charlton's hope is that they can counter-attack so quickly that Hales or Robinson will be put in possession before the Ipswich defence can recover. Others have had similar ideas, including the league leaders' nearest rivals, Aston Villa, and Mr Bailey knows that the best he can wish for is a *repeat of Ipswich's unusually lax* performance in the fourth round at Shrewsbury. The combination of a lapse by one and a monumental effort by the other is the stuff of Cup surprises, and the means by which Charlton's present can upstage their past.

Norman Fox



Hales: uses experience to take the pressure off a suspect Charlton defence.

Once more Exeter turn to Kellow for another upset at a distant St James' Park

High-scoring forward from the backwoods

It seemed to be almost tempting fate to say to Tony Kellow before Exeter's third division match at Portsmouth the other night: "Whatever you do, don't get injured or sent off." As the chosen subject of this interview it would have been awkward of the league's leading scorer to have gone and spoiled it by allowing circumstances to prevent him appearing in the FA Cup fifth round tie at Newcastle he had been asked, among other topics, to discuss.

So it was with considerable anxiety that a couple of journalists, not to mention the entire populace of Exeter, awaited the reaction to the injury that had forced him to hobble out of the match at Fratton Park before it was an hour old. Happily it was diagnosed as a hamstring strain and not a tear that would have definitely kept him out of the most advanced match Exeter have played in the competition for 43 years.

Without their scorer of 25 goals to date this season, Exeter's chance of causing another upset would have appeared even less feasible than it was during the eight second half minutes in which Portsmouth took them apart after Kellow's departure. In that time Exeter's defence had foundered to let Portsmouth add four more goals to the one they scored in the first half. If Newcastle are to go the same way as Leicester did ultimately in the last round, the Exeter manager, Brian Godfrey will have to complete the most persuasive chore, restoring the morale of his obviously apprehensive players.

It will not be the first time that Exeter have looked to Kellow to alter their fortunes. It *was after Mr Godfrey's predeces*sor Bob Saxton, had sold him to Blackpool for a club record fee of £120,000 in November, 1968, that both the player and his old club found themselves bemoaning the move. Kellow had gone largely because he thought that from Blackpool he could switch to one of the first division clubs he hankers after.

"I thought it would be a good stepping-stone. Blackpool is in a better football area as Exeter is so under exposed", said Kellow, who nearly had his wish granted by Derby County before they turned to Alan Biley on being refused. Under Bob Stokoe, Kellow's career at Blackpool continued to flourish, but it was when he left that things turned sour for him.

"Alan Ball made a quick assessment and his decision to let me go was probably the best one for me and the club. I found myself going back to Exeter (for £65,000 16 months later) because they couldn't get any recognized strikers to come down to the West Country and play for them. It's in the backwoods as far as football goes.

"The fact is you've got to be doing well here to get people to come and see you." Much *as he appreciates the leisurely* way of life in Devon and the parks of Exeter where he walks his spaniel, Kellow would grasp any other opportunity to play for a more illustrious club. He believes his last experience has stood him in good stead. "I think that if my football was all right I'd settle for that to a degree."

His itch to better himself stems from the fact that for a player of 28 he has not had that much league football. Until four years ago he had earned his corn as a dockyard electrician in Falmouth, playing for the town's Western League team before he found himself marked by John Newman, then Exeter's manager in a match against their reserves. Mr Newman needed no further convincing.

For such a prolific scorer, Kellow hardly looks the part. A slight figure, slightly thinning on top and with a quiet Cornish brogue, he was the last player you expected to emerge on request from the hotel reception. On the pitch, however, he makes his presence felt with so much enthusiastic running that he sometimes has to be restrained for fear of not being at his freshest to convert the chances.

Were it not for the fact that Kellow rarely worries about his *own form he might be concerned* that he has not scored in the four games since his three goals sank Leicester in the replay. He missed the chance to get one by fluffing a penalty at Burnley last Saturday. "They are still looking for the ball", he joked. He is banking on his knack returning at Newcastle, whose ground like Exeter's is known as St James Park. That much at least might give Exeter the comfort of feeling they are going from home to home, albeit a modest one to a rather more expansive one. "The most important thing is that we play well enough to make sure the day doesn't pass us by", he said. "If we freeze we'll get slaughtered."

Nicholas Harling

Racing

Drumburn represents the only serious threat to Broadsword

By Michael Seely

Newbury's Schweppes Gold Trophy meeting opens with a fanfare of trumpets this afternoon. What more exciting overture to tomorrow's great drama could be imagined than the appearance of Broadsword, the favourite for the Daily Express Triumph Hurdle, in the Stroud Green Hurdle and that of Midnight Court, the hero of the 1978 Cheltenham Gold Cup, in the Cricklade Handicap Hurdle.

Broadsword has gone from strength to strength since David Nicholson bought this useful stayer from John Dunlop. Broadsword has made his mark as a hurdler, having won five of his six races under winter rules. The four-year-old's only defeat occurred at the hands of Lir at Sandown Park in November. However, Nicholson blames himself for that defeat as he did not instruct Peter Scudamore to make enough use of the horse. At Sandown recently Broadsword gave a magnificent display of quick and accurate hurdling before handing out a handsome beating to several older horses.

Although Hill's Northern quickened in fine style when winning at Leicester the opposition was moderate. The only serious threat to Broadsword seems to come from Drumburn: Lady Herries's four-year-old was impressive when slamming Blake by eight lengths at Sandown. However, Broadsword's many admirers will be disappointed with anything but a convincing victory.

Midnight Court's 12-length defeat of Freight Forwarder at Cheltenham both surprised and delighted Fred Winter. After this afternoon the trainer intends to run Midnight Court in one steeplechase before Cheltenham. "Time is running out", Winter said yesterday. "I would like Midnight Court to have one more race over fences before the big day." The Fairlawne Chase at Windsor next Wednesday or the Gerry M Handicap at Lingfield Park the following Saturday are possible targets. However, although Midnight Court is sure to run well today it is hard to see Winter's champion giving so much weight to Les Kennard's easy Windsor winner, Shell Burst.

The afternoon's interest does not end there. However Winter fares with Midnight Court, the champion trainer could land a double with Broadleas in the Aldermaston Novices Chase, and with Musso in the Haig Whisky Novices Hurdle Qualifier.

Winter's neighbour, Fulke Walwyn, runs Dramatist in the Thatcham Handicap. Dramatist ran a storming race when narrowly defeated by Easter Eel at Kempton Park and in view of Easter Eel's fluent victory at Ascot on Wednesday, this tough old character may succeed in giving the weight to King Or Country and Duc De Bolebec.

At Sedgefield the recent track winner, Easby Gold, is a confident selection to capture the Horden Handicap Chase and among three likely winners for Michael Dickinson is Cathmaria who runs in the Wolsingham Novices Hurdle. Cathmaria ran wel lenough behind Tough Debate at Worcester in November to suggest that the mare may be worthy of support.

As usual there was an exciting atmosphere and good racing at Huntingdon yesterday. The locally born Josh Gifford landed a double by winning the day's big race, the Sidney Banks Memorial Hurdle with Glamour Show and the Major Charles Townsend Memorial Hunters' Chase with Roadhead. The hurdle race could not have provided a more exciting finish. The 5-4 on favourite, Faulonn, was beaten approaching the final flight and Richard Rowe forced Glamour Show past the post, just in front of Tuthill Bond and Lex.

Roadhead turned the Hunter Chase into a procession. Well ridden by the owner's daughter, Margaret Wilson, this quick jumping front runner was clear over the last three fences to win unchallenged. Roadhead's only mistake came when he pecked at the final jump. But to her eternal credit Miss Wilson sat as tight as a limpet.

In the other feature race, the Ely Chase, the outsider of the two runners, Dancing Brig, had too much finishing speed for Havanus.



Flagstaff clears the last fence ahead of Royal Stuart and goes on to win at Huntingdon.

STATE OF GOING (official): Newbury: [illegible]. Sedgefield: Good to soft [illegible]. Tomorrow: [illegible]: Good to soft. Wolverhampton: Soft.

Sedgefield inspection

Sedgefield stewrds will hold a precautionary inspection at the track this morning to see whether racing can take place. The clerk of the course, Kit Patterson, said yesterday afternoon: "There is a touch of frost in the ground which I think will come out in time to save the meeting."

Best bet for Gold Cup is 33-1 Border Incident

According to Richard Head, who saddled Lady Martha, by far the easiest of the seven winners at Wincanton yesterday, the best ante-post bet for Cheltenham must be Border Incident, who stands at as much as 33-1 for the Gold Cup. Last year, Border Incident started 6-1 third favourite for the race and held as good a chance as anything when unluckily coming down at the 17th.

Head declares: "He's every bit as good now as he was last year. He's still a very, very good horse—make no mistake. I'm very pleased with him and hope he'll win the Gold Cup. He will run at Windsor next Wednesday or Wincanton the following week."

Apart from Border Incident's first appearance in public when Richard Pitman had the mount, the horse has had only two partners—John Francome and Ron Barry, and Head hopes that one or other of these two will always be available for him.

Border Incident's stablemate Lady Martha made a mockery of the handicap in the Gillingham Hurdle, cruising up the straight in front with Martin O'Halloran not moving a muscle and beating Edith Rose by seven lengths.

The favourite, Bingley Bridge, who looked poor value at 2-1 in this big field, seems to have been collared by the handicapper, was always struggling, and well beaten into seventh place.

Wincanton

12.45 (12.48) BRUTON CHASE (Div I: Hunters: £662: 3m 1f)
PERSIAN SCIMITAR, b h, by Master Stephan—Khyty Khub (Mrs V. Robertson) 8-11-7 Mr M. Bush (5-1) 1
Lord Dawson Mr R. White (evens fav) 2
Glanville Prince Mr P. Mitchell (33-1) 3
TOTE: Win, 51p; places, 20p, 11p, 38p. Dual F: 54p. CSF: 58p. Mrs V. Robertson, at West Camel. 3l, distance. Morning Heather (14-1) 4th. 12 ran.

1.15 (1.19) CORTON DENHAM CHASE (Handicap: £1,305: 2m 5f)
WOODHAM, b g, by Little Buskins—Meticulous (D. Hooper), 11-10-8 C. McIlfatrick (11-1) 1
Doubly Royal M. Richards (8-11 fav) 2
Easy Pickens M. Coyle (100-30) 3
TOTE: Win, 74p; places, 12p, 15p, 10p. Dual F: 69p. CSF: £1.86. J. Old, at Salisbury. ½l, 2½l. Mac (50-1) 4th. 9 ran.

1.45 (1.50) GILLINGHAM HURDLE (Handicap: £1,480: 2m)
LADY MARTHA, b m, by Sidon—Clonsadoon (M. Ward Thomas) 7-10-9 M. O'Halloran (7-2) 1
Edith Rose W. Newton (33-1) 2
The Goldstone M. Reeves (5-1) and
Hi Mary P. Richards (20-1) 3†
TOTE: Win, 85p; places, 33p, £4.07, The Goldstone 25p, Hi Mary 35p. Dual F: 35p. Winner or second with any other horse. CSF: £11.70. R. Head, at Lambourn. 7l, 8l. Bickleigh Bridge 2-1 fav. 19 ran.

2.15 (2.17) WINCANTON CHALLENGE CUP CHASE (£2,292: 2m)
STOPPED, ch g, by Crackaman—Gilt Bounty (T. Ludlow), 9-11-12 B de Haan (4-11 fav) 1
Artifice Miss J. Thorne (5-2) 2
Kabeau J. Francombe (14-1) 3
TOTE: Win, 11p. Dual F: 15p. CSF: 14p. F. Winter, at Lambourn. 3l, 30l. 3 ran.

2.45 (2.47) BRUTON CHASE (Div II: Hunters: £663: 3m 1f)
WOODHAY, b g, by Raise You Ten—Comes (H. Butt), 10-12-3 Mr R. Alner (3-1) 1
Aldrat Mr P. Howse (7-1) 2
Precipitous Miss A. Dare (16-1) 3
TOTE: Win, 65p; places, 27p, 18p, 17p. Dual F: £1.57. CSF: £2.55. H. Butt. 7l, 30l. Mountolive evens fav. Neeseden (14-1) 4th. 12 ran.

3.15 (3.20) A NOVICE HURDLE (Div I: £651: 2m)
JADE'S DOUBLE, bl g, by Double-U-Jay—Hi Teen (Y. McCarthy), 4-10-0 S. Keightley (3-1 fav) 1
Kandacombe P. Scudamore (33-1) 2
St William A. Carroll (8-1) 3
TOTE: Win, 45p; places, 16p, 69p, 30p. Dual F: CSF: £9.42. Mrs B. Waring, at Malmesbury. 3l, 1l. Gold Racer (33-1) 4th. 23 ran.

3.45 (3.53) A NOVICE HURDLE (Div II: £625: 2m)
GILLIGAN, b g, by Deep Run—Caroline's Money (T. Thomson Jones), 6-11-7 Mr T. Thomson Jones (11-1) 1
Just A River J. Francombe (33-1) 2
Light Snac M. O'Halloran (5-2) 3
TOTE: Win, 67p; places, 27p, 59p, 23p. Dual F: £7.87. CSF: £31.91. T. Forster, at Wantage. 2½l, 3l. Alcos 2-1 fav. Croydon Hall (50-1) 4th. 23 ran.
PLACEPOT: £20.45. JACKPOT: Not won: Pool of £314.15 carried foward to Newbury today.



Golf

Only Player jnr masters south-easter

From Eric Marsden
Johannesburg, Feb 12

The notorious Cape south-easter proved a great leveller in the second round of the South African Masters at Milterton today, preventing any of the golfers from equalling par. The best rounds of the day were of 73 by Tertius Claassens, the new leader, and young Wayne player, amateur son of Gary (his father could only manage a 79).

Claassens had a 68 yesterday and so is three under on 141. Mark McNulty, who had a 74 today, is second on 142. The overnight leader, Vincent Tshabalala, of Soweto, battled against severe winds to return 78 to add to his 65 yesterday. He shares third place with Ronnie Stewart and John Fourie.

Another four South Africans are on 144, followed by the leading foreign competitor, Ian Mosey, of Britain, who had a praiseworthy 74 to add to his first round 71. John O'Leary, of Ireland, and Bernhard Langer, of West Germany, are linked on 146. Almost every competitor failed to improve on his first round score. Wayne Player was an exception, bettering yesterday's 81 by eight strokes.

QUALIFIERS: 141, T. Claassens 68, 73; 142, M. McNulty 68, 74; 143, R. Stewart 66, 77, V. Tshabalala 65, 78, PJ. Fourie 68, 75; 144, D. Hayes 66, 78; 145, I. Mosey (GB) 71, 74; 146, B. Bahus 69, 77, B. Langer (WG) 71, 75, J. O'Leary (Ireland) 71, 75; 147, J. Hawkes 73, 74, A. Henning 72, 75; 148, P. Morley (GB) 71, 77, A. Chandler (GB) 72, 76; J. Bland 72, 76; 149, D. Robertson (US) 73, 77, T. Britz 72, 77, K. Waters (GB) 71, 78; 150, W. Humphreys (GB) 67, 83, R. Rafferty 74, 76, D. Naidoo 74, 76, T. Vargo (US) 72, 78, C. Moody 70, 80, G. Levenson 72, 78; 151, B. Sharrock (GB) 72, 79, B. Lincoln 72, 79, G. Player 72, 79, P. Barber (GB) 71, 80, G. Williams 73, 78, V. Baker 74, 77; 152, L. van Nickerk 73, 79, A. Oosthuizen 75, 77, D. Williams (GB) 72, 80, D. Suddards 74, 78, B. Charles (NZ) 74, 78.

Edwards hopes to reap an American benefit

Barry Edwards, executive director of the Women's Professional Golfers' Association, expects to reap several benefits from his recent trip to the United States. He had long consultations with Ray Volpe, commissioner of the United States Ladies PGA, which could result in many leading American women players, including Nancy Lopez-Melton playing two tournaments in Europe next year.

One would take place in France and the other in Britain. Mr Edwards expects no difficulty finding a sponsor prepared to put up $50,000 in prize money for the British event: "I owe it to the sponsors who have supported our tour to give them the first chance" he said.

The European tournaments are likely to take place in September-October, avoiding clashes with the European men's tour. They would follow the pattern of the Colgate European ladies tournament, so successfully held at Sunningdale for several years, except that this time 25 to 30 European professionals would also take part. As *a result of his trip Mr Edwards* expects a number of Australians, Canadians and Americans to play on the European circuit this year.

"Debbie Massey told me she will defend the British women's Open at Northumberland in July and is trying to persuade some of the other top Americans to come over for that event as well", he said. Mr Volpe is considering seriously a suggestion that the winner of the Order of Merit in Europe should be given exemption the following year to play three or four tournaments on the American circuit.

Tennis

Whichello sets himself another target

By Lewine Mair

Having won both of Saab's first two 14 and under invitation tournaments this winter, Richard Whichello of Middlesex will, over the next three days, be endeavouring to make it three out of three. The venue is the Derby sports centre and the surface the same supreme carpet as did duty for the Wightman Cup and the Braniff Airways tournament.

Last weekend, at Kapelle Diezelingen, Whichello won all four of his singles in the Great Britain-Netherlands international, and, in the words of the LTA's national junior coordinator, Derek Bone, "displayed an aggression that has not been seen in a young British junior for many years".

Jason Goodhall, of Yorkshire, has been the runner-up to Whichello in each of the last two Saab tournaments and one suspects that the two will again meet in the final on Sunday afternoon.

Among the girls, the four top seeds are the quartet who last weekend won for Great Britain the 14 and under section of the international in the Netherlands—namely, Joanne Louis, Caroline Bhagnandas, Alison Grant and *Suzanne Mair.*

Miss Louis, who hails from the Arthur Roberts stable in Devon, won the first of the 14 and under Saab events but was in America at the time of the second instalment.

Between the dictation and publication of yesterday's Davis Cup article a fact was somehow stood on its head. Britain, rather than Czechoslovakia, won both their recent King's Cup ties.

Rugby League

Rovers' antidote to injury costs £30,000

By Keith Macklin

The reason behind the late swoop into the pre-Cup transfer market by Hull Kingston Rovers could be revealed when Rovers announce their team to entertain Barrow in tomorrow's first round game in the Three Fives Challenge Cup. Rovers, who won the trophy by beating their neighbours Hull at Wembley last season, have more than half a team injured. Watkinson, Holdstock, Lowe, Rose, Price, Hall and Hubbard are among those likely to be missing at Craven Park and the way is open for the immediate inclusion of the men bought for a total of £30,000; second row forward from Hunslet and Chris Burton, the second row forward from Huddersfield. Tickle returns at full back for Barrow.

Rovers' rivals, Hull, also have injury troubles, with Wilby and Crane doubtful for the big game with Leeds. The Headingley side have rejected a transfer bid from St Helens for their international back John Holmes. Holmes continues his experimental and successful move into the second row of the pack.

Swinton, who entertain Featherstone Rovers, will be without their loose forward Tony Peters and Wakefield Trinity, who visit Fulham, have to find a replacement for front row forward Colin Forsyth.

Bern, Switzerland, Feb 12.—The draw for the semi-final rounds of the three European football cup competitions will be held in Zurich on March 20.—AFP.

Huntingdon results

1.30 (1.32) GLATTON HURDLE (Handicap: £1,021: 2m abt 200 yds)
MANDY'S TIME, b m by High Time—Mandy's Melody (Miss J. Wood), 5-9-7 J. A. Harris (10-1) 1
Graf Metternich B. Smart (5-1) 2
Lesaluc B. Reilly (7-2 fav) 3
TOTE: Win, 66p; places, 11p, 19p, 12p. Dual F: £2.56. CSF: £6.62. J. Harris at Melton Mowbray. 2½l, 1½l. Arc Prince (10-1) 4th. 25 ran.

2.0 (2.01) WHITTESLEY CHASE (Handicap: £1,124: 3m abt 100 yds)
FLAGSTAFF, b g by Big Timber—Doll Fair (Mrs G. Lupp) 9-10-0 A. Webber (9-4) 1
Royal Stuart P. Blacker (5-4 fav) 2
Benghazi Express B. Smart (5-1) 3
TOTE: Win, 32p; places, 26p, 12p. Dual F: 26p. CSF 58p. T. Forster at Wantage. nk, 30l. Silberton (20-1) 4th. 7 ran.

2.30 (2.34) SIDNEY BANKS HURDLE (Novices: £4,142: abt 2½m)
GLAMOUR SHOW, b g by Welsh Pageant—Maladie d'Amour (R. Peskin) 5-11-2 R. Champion (6-1) 1
Tuthill Bond T. Carmody (12-1) 2
Lex R. Barry (7-2) 3
TOTE: Win, 55p; places, 16p, 16p. Dual F: £5.57. CSF: £7.57. J. Gifford at Findon. hd, ½l. Faulonn (4-5 fav) 4th. 8 ran. NR: Happy Voyage.

3.0 (3.01) ELY CHASE (£2,739: abt 2½m)
DANCING BRIG, br g by New Brig—Dancing Deal (T. Clay) 10-11-13 Mr T. Clay (5-2) 1
Havanus (Fr) B. R. Davies (30-100 fav) 2
TOTE: Win, 25p. T. Clay at Arundel. ½l. 2 ran. NR: Wayward Lad.

3.30 (3.32) MAJOR CHARLES TOWNSEND CHASE (Hunters: £479: 2½m)
ROADHEAD, br g by Doon—Chantabelle (J. Wilson), 8-12-2 Miss M. Wilson (4-5 fav) 1
Sydney Quin Miss P. Mumford (25-1) 2
Remigio Mr A. J. Wilson (6-1) 3
TOTE: Win, 15p; places, 15p, 21p. Dual F: £1.82. CSF: £2.51. J. Gifford at Findon. 10l, 2l. No Retreat (25-1) 4th. 16 ran.

4.0 (4.01) LOWER STANTON HURDLE (£1,027: abt 3m)
TAN TROED, b g by Crozier—Nuzia (Miss J. Wallace) 8-9-7 Miss J. Wallace (8-1) 1
Precipienne D. Dutton (4-1 fav) 2
Fredo C. Kinane (8-1) 3
TOTE: Win, 97p; places, 19p, 15p. Dual F: £1.62. CSF: £4.39. PLACEPOT: £95.95. Mrs K. Wallace at Lambourn. ½l, 1½l. Padski (16-1) 4th. 20 ran.

Newbury programme

1.30 ALDERMASTON CHASE (Novices: £1,944: 2m 160yd)
1 030124 Daviot, M. Salaman, 7-11-9 .... Mr M. Ley 7
2 420p01 Famous Footsteps, Miss A. Sinclair, 6-11-9 .... M. Coyle 4
3 0-00031 Persian Crown (B), R. Turnell, 7-11-9 .... A. Turnell
5 12-3010 Versailles Prince, A. Ingham, 8-11-9 .... F. Grimes 7
6 0/p-pp Abbathane, K. Weisselberg, 10-11-3 .... —
7 1110-02 Broadleas, F. Winter, 7-11-3 .... J. Francome
8 200300 Norfolk Arrow, J. Gifford, 6-11-3 .... R. Rowe
9 0/000- Rowden Rascal, Mrs E. Kennard, 7-11-3 .... James Guest
11 00214d Royal Friend, D. Hanley, 7-11-3 .... P. Scudamore
13 p0-0023 Saint Taffy, J. Webber, 5-10-10 .... Mr P. Webber
7-4 Broadleas, 3-1 Persian Crown, 11-2 Famous Footsteps, 7-1 Daviot, 8-1 Saint Taffy, 12-1 Norfolk Arrow, 14-1 Royal Friend, 16-1 Versailles Prince, 20-1 others.

2.0 THATCHAM CHASE (Handicap: £2,473: 2½m)
202 r02112 Dramatist (C,D), F. Walwyn, 10-11-12 .... W. Smith
203 3011-p4 King Or Country (D), D. Barons, 10-11-3 .... P. Leach
205 24300f Nimrody (D), F. Winter, 10-10-11 .... P. Maddison
206 220310/ Kilbroney (D), J. Gifford, 10-10-6 .... R. Champion
207 r110p2 Duc De Bolebec (D), G. Fairbairn, 8-10-2 .... B. de Haan
209 4-41f22 Collars and Cuffs (B), D. Nicholson, 7-10-0 .... P. Scudamore
212 112240 Chichester Bird (D), R. Smyth, 7-10-0 .... R. G. Hughes
5-2 Collars and Cuffs, 11-4 Dramatist, 9-2 Straight Jocelyn, 5-1 Duc De Bolebec, 8-1 King Or Country, 10-1 Nimrody, 12-1 others.

2.30 STROUD GREEN HURDLE (4-y-o: £4,277: 2m 100yd)
301 121111 Broadsword, D. Nicholson, 11-5 .... P. Scudamore
302 410 Imperium, J. Old, 11-5 .... R. Champion
305 0 Chrysippos, J. Priday, 11-0 .... G. Jones
307 0020 Colombium, E. Beeson, 11-0 .... R. Goldstein
308 11 Drumburn, Lady Herries, 11-0 .... P. Haynes
310 0001 Hill's Northern, R. Turnell, 11-0 .... A. Turnell
312 00 Quiet Cannon, P. Mitchell, 11-0 .... R. G. Hughes
313 f310 Royal Casino, F. Wardle, 11-0 .... R. F. Davies
314 140130 Tangaroa (CD), D. Elsworth, 11-0 .... C. Brown
8-13 Broadsword, 4-1 Drumburn, 8-1 Hill's Northern, 14-1 Imperium, Quiet Cannon, 16-1 Colombium, Tangaroa, 20-1 others.

3.0 HARWELL CHASE (Handicap: £2,607: 3m)
402 24f-404 Approaching (CD), J. Gifford, 10-11-10 .... R. Champion
404 330-331 Chumson (D), F. Winter, 10-11-5 .... J. Francome
406 133f23- Modesty Forbids (D), J. Gifford, 9-11-1 .... R. Rowe
407 401232 Gandy VI, J. Thorne, 12-10-8 .... S. May
408 44-2pp4 Lochage (D), T. Forster, 10-10-7 .... Mr T. Thomson-Jones
409 131124 Brown Jock (CD), R. Armytage, 13-10-6 .... P. Blacker
410 pp4000 Tristram Shandy (D), C. House, 7-10-4 .... B. de Haan
413 4u3f0u Sugarally (D), G. Fairbairn, 8-10-0 .... P. Scudamore
414 001/314 Hard Outlook (CD), A. Wales, 10-10-0 .... A. Webber
418 4fp3b-0 This Way (D), J. George, 10-10-0 .... C. Candy
6-4 Chumson, 3-1 Approaching, 13-2 Brown Jock, 10-1 Lochage, 12-1 Modesty Forbids, Hard Outlook, 14-1 Gandy VI, 16-1 others.

3.30 HAIG WHISKY HURDLE (Qualifier: novices: £1,660: 2m 100yd)
501 f21011 Combs Ditch (B), D. Elsworth, 5-11-11 .... C. Brown
504 42103f Insulation, L. Kennard, 7-11-5 .... M. Floyd
505 44001 Mr Whiskers, R. Head, 7-11-5 .... R. Barry
506 0010 Spiders Web, J. Webber, 6-11-5 .... Mr P. Webber
508 013 Pre-Eminence, D. Gandolfo, 5-11-1 .... R. R. Davies
509 00-0212 Southdown Spirit, J. Gifford, 5-11-1 .... R. Champion
511 f2 Asdic, D. Kent, 6-11-0 .... P. Haynes
512 00 Charlie Muddle, S. Mellor, 6-11-0 .... S. Jobar
513 0 Gamel's Path, T. Forster, 7-11-0 .... B. de Haan
515 Gravel Lane, J. Old, 7-11-0 .... S. May
518 0 My Bonnie Prince, R. Armytage, 6-11-0 .... A. Webber
521 0030/p4- Rawlinson, D. Barons, 7-11-0 .... P. Leach
522 2f123f Rizzio, D. Nicholson, 6-11-0 .... P. Scudamore
525 00 Swift King, D. Greig, 6-11-0 .... P. Barton
528 f00 Bellingham, D. Ancil, 5-10-10 .... J. King
529 f-0 Bold Hope, J. Old, 5-10-10 .... C. McIlfatrick
530 Celtic Way, Lady Herries, 5-10-10 .... C. Gwilliam
531 Grand Review, Mrs W. Sykes, 5-10-10 .... S. Morshead
532 Hat Trick, T. Forster, 5-10-10 .... R. Linley
533 0f0 Hill Green, G. Balding, 5-10-10 .... B. Reilly
534 0442 Lucyfar, F. Walwyn, 5-10-10 .... S. Shilston
536 0 Miss Beft, R. Turnell, 5-10-10 .... S. Knight
537 0 Musso, F. Winter, 5-10-10 .... J. Francome
538 000 O'Marcu, G. Kindersley, 5-10-10 .... N. Dunger
539 Park Cheg, Mrs E. Kennard, 5-10-10 .... James Guest
540 00-3220 Pay Freeze, R. Turnell, 5-10-10 .... A. Turnell
541 Queen Meander, N. Henderson, 5-10-10 .... S. Smith Eccles
4-1 Musso, 9-2 Combs Ditch, 6-1 Lucyfar, 6-1 Asdic, 10-1 Pay Freeze, 12-1 Mr Whiskers, Rizzio, 14-1 Southdown Spirit, 16-1 Pre-Eminence, 20-1 others.

4.0 CRICKLADE HURDLE (Handicap: £2,737: 2½m 120yd)
601 111/30-1 Midnight Court, F. Winter, 10-12-7 .... J. Francome
603 0-02020 Polly Toodle (B), E. Swaffield, 9-11-4 .... Mr P. Swaffield 4
604 440000 Farmer, R. Hawker, 6-11-4 .... E. Waite 4
607 04-0421 Shell Burst, L. Kennard, 6-11-3 .... A. Webber
609 2311-00 Ancient Briton, J. Gifford, 6-10-12 .... R. Rowe
611 034413 Giddyean, Mrs E. Harder, 5-10-6 .... R. Hoare
612 01-0140 Battue (B), R. Turnell, 5-10-6 .... S. Knight
613 f-2a02f Aukland Jack, R. Armytage, 7-10-6 .... H. Davies
614 f-0042 Full Sutton, D. Kent, 8-10-5 .... P. Haynes
615 1f00-00 Bridewall Hotel, J. Gifford, 7-10-2 .... G. Enright
616 10002-0 Rorqual, F. Rimell, 6-10-2 .... S. Morshead
617 f0u23 Salad, D. Nicholson, 7-10-1 .... J. Suthern
618 1144 Tea-Pot, B. Blanshard, 5-10-0 .... C. Brown
619 043242 Heroic (B), D. Barons, 6-10-0 .... P. Leach
620 300010 Royal Gaye, W. Sheedy, 8-10-0 .... Mrs L. Sheedy
621 000000 Gold Invader, A. Scott, 8-10-0 .... P. Scudamore
622 21034/0- Kandos (CD), E. Beeson, 6-10-0 .... R. Goldstein
5-2 Midnight Court, 7-2 Shell Burst, 6-1 Full Sutton, 8-1 Royal Gaye, 10-1 Farmer, 12-1 Polly Toodle, Giddyean, 14-1 Ancient Briton, 16-1 Battue, 20-1 others.

Newbury selections

By Michael Seely

1.30 Broadleas. 2.0 Dramatist. 2.30 Broadsword. 3.0 Approaching. 3.30 Musso. 4.0 Shell Burst.

Rifle shooting

Robinson in Nordic event

By Our Rifle Shooting Correspondent

British and world air pistol champion, Geoffrey Robinson, from Dartford, and the British air rifle champion, Barry Dagger, of Grantham, are among a 100 top class marksmen from Denmark, Finland, Great Britain, Norway and Sweden competing in the Nordic air weapons championships which opened in Cardiff, yesterday.

The strong British turnout also includes the well-known husband and wife champions, Malcolm and Sarah Cooper, from Hayling Island, and the former British and world small bore champion, Alistair Allan, of Abingdon. The pistol events will be completed tomorrow, and the rifle finals on Sunday.

Bowls

Housewife defeats men

Norma Shaw the 43-year-old Stockton housewife last night reached the final stages of the £9,500 John Player Classic tournament at Darlington. But the Crown Green champion, Noel Burrows of Manchester went out.

Mrs Shaw, the British Isles women's indoor champion, finished second in her group against all male opponents and now meets the world champion David Bryant in her semi-final round. Today's other semi-final will be contested by Derek Bell, the England indoor champion and his club colleague Mal Hughes from Hartlepool. Burrows missed his chance of winning the top prize of £3,000, the highest in the history of the game, when he went down by 15—6 to Bell in the decisive match.

RESULTS: S. Douglas (Motherwell) beat W. McKelvey (Belfast) 15—6; D. Bell (Hartlepool) beat N. Burrows (Manchester) 15—6; S. Hubbard beat Mrs L. Hawes (Bradmill Baths) 15—4; Bryant beat Hughes 15—3.

Latest European snow reports

	Depth (cm) L	U	Piste	Conditions Off piste	Runs to resort	Weather (5 pm)	°C
Andermatt	130	350	Good	Powder	Fair	Fine	-1
Good powder on north slopes							
Grindelwald	90	200	Good	Varied	Good	Fine	-1
Excellent skiing on piste							
Isola 2000	15	45	Fair	Worn	—	Cloud	5
New snow improves the piste							
La Plagne	175	350	Good	Varied	Fair	Fine	-12
Worn patches on lower slopes							
Murren	190	455	Good	Varied	Good	Fine	-6
Some icy patches							
Tignes	180	280	Worn	Good	—	Fine	-5
Good skiing on piste							

In the above reports, supplied by representatives of the Ski Club of Great Britain, L refers to lower slopes and U to upper slopes. The following reports have been received from other sources.

	Depth (cm) L	U	State of Piste	Weather	°C
SWITZERLAND					
Adelboden	80	180	Pwdr	—	-12
Braunwald	100	250	Pwdr	—	-16
Champery	20	140	Pwdr	—	-7
Chateau d'Oex	80	200	Pwdr	—	-10
Disentis	130	250	Pwdr	—	-11
Engelberg	100	320	Hard	—	-12
Gstaad	120	200	Pwdr	—	-14
Kandersteg	80	220	Pwdr	—	-10
Laax-Flims	110	260	Pwdr	—	-6
Lenk	80	180	Pwdr	—	-11
Les Diablerets	80	160	Pwdr	—	-17
Leysin	80	160	Hard	—	-10
Montana	25	70	Pwdr	—	-21
St Cergue	150	170	Hard	—	-7
Savognin	40	100	Pwdr	—	-7
Unterwasser	100	150	Pwdr	—	-7
GERMANY					
Berchtesgaden	50	250	Pwdr	—	-9
Hindelang	80	180	Pwdr	—	-9
Kleinwalsertal	160	320	Pwdr	—	-12
Mittenwald	55	130	Pwdr	—	-8
Oberammergau	55	130	Pwdr	—	-10
Oberstaufen	110	200	Pwdr	—	-9

SCOTLAND: Cairngorm: Main runs: only one high level run complete. Wet snow with icy patches. Lower slopes: no snow. Snow level 2,700ft. Glenshee: Very little snow. Glencoe: Main runs, a few runs complete but narrow—all others broken. New snow with many icy patches. Lower slopes: no snow. Vertical runs 800ft. Access roads clear. Snow level 3,700ft. Lecht: Very little or no snow.

For the record

Boxing

ABERDEEN: Amateur international: Scotland 6, Sweden 4. Bantam: P. Glencross beat J. Royallo points. Feather: G. Ambrose beat O. Bengtsson, points. Light: W. Buchanan beat R. Kainura, points. Light-welter: G. Kerr lost to T. Loghandere points. K. McCave lost to E. Karlsen, disqualified. Welter: M. Ogilvie beat T. Tramos, first round. Light-middle: V. Mallory beat E. Gustavsen, points. Light-heavy: G. Brown lost to P. Lumumba, points. K. Simmons beat R. Karlberg, retired second. Heavy: W. Gunn lost to R. Neilson, second round.

Golf

MELBOURNE: Victorian Open championship. First round: 66, I. Stanley (equals course record); 69, W. Dunk, W. Grady; 70, P. Fowler; 71, T. Gale, S. Montgomerie, S. Owen (New Zealand).

Tennis

OAKLAND: Women's tournament: Second round: A. Jaeger (US) beat M. Van der Torre (Netherlands), 6—1, 6—2. W. Turnbull (Australia) beat J. Harrington (US), 6—4, 7—6; V. Wade (GB) beat P. Smith (US), 6—4, 6—3. C. Kohde (WG) beat R. Fairbank (South Africa), 6—3, 6—0. P. Teeguarden (US) beat I. Villiger (Switzerland), 6—5, 6—3. E. Norton (US) beat K. Horvath (US), 6—4, 6—2.

Basketball

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION: Philadelphia 76ers 124, Cleveland Cavaliers 120; Milwaukee Bucks 107, Indiana Pacers 102; New Jersey Nets 133, Chicago Bulls 135; Kansas City Kings 101, Utah Jazz 87; Houston Rockets 106, San Antonio Spurs 89; Phoenix Suns 115, Dallas Mavericks 97; Boston Celtics 105, Los Angeles Lakers 91.

Billiards

MARGATE: 1981 Super Crystalate UK championship: Semi-final round: J. Karnehm (Palmers Green) beat J. Barrie (Wisbech) 1,335-1,074.

Bowls

DARLINGTON: Quarter-final round: M. Hughes beat R. Barnett 15—4, D. Bryant beat S. Hubbard 15—8.

Football

LIMA: Peru 1, Bulgaria 2.

Biathlon

LAHTI (Finland): World championships: 20km event: 1, H. Ikola (Finland), 1hr 13min 7sec (no penalty); 2, F. Ullrich (EG), 1-14.09 (2min); 3, E. Antila (Finland), 1.14.31 (3min); 4, M. Jung (EG), 1.15.18 (2min); 5, F. Fischer (WG), 1.15.41 (2min); 6, A. Alyabyev (USSR), 1.15.38 (2min).

Sedgefield programme

12.45 SOUTH SHIELDS STEEPLECHASE (Handicap: £947: 2m)
1 1-241f0 My Buck (D), M. Dickinson, 9-12-7 .... T. Carmody
2 130/p10 Grand Trianon (CD), T. Gillam, 9-11-5 .... H. Winn 7
3 321044 Durham Lad (CD), T. Fairhurst, 8-11-1 .... C. Fairhurst
4 440104 Meldrette (D), L. Griffiths, 10-10-2 .... P. Tuck
5 037324 Northern Despatch (D), A. Corner, 8-10-2 .... R. Lamb
6 313-000 Melmerby (CD), P. Courage, 8-10-0 .... S. Charlton
Evens My Buck, 7-2 Grand Trianon, 6-1 Dorham Town, 8-1 Meldrette, 10-1 Northern Despatch, 14-1 Melmerby.

1.15 RYHOPE HURDLE (4-y-o novices: £345: 2m)
1 01032 B and K Emperor (D), M. W. Easterby, 11-10 .... P. Tuck
3 31 Snow Blessed (D), R. Johnson, 11-10 .... D. Wilkinson 4
3 0 Aladyat, J. Blundell, 11-0 .... A. Brown
4 00 Anne Rockette, T. Fairhurst, 11-0 .... C. Fairhurst
6 04 Barryphillips Disco, R. Whitaker, 11-0 .... A. Bowker
7 0 Bairothed, R. Woodhouse, 11-0 .... D. Dutton
8 p040 Czernin, R. Johnson, 11-0 .... C. Hawkins
12 0 Frazer's Friend, J. Kettlewell, 11-10 .... S. Kettlewell 7
13 0 Gandolf, C. Bell, 11-0 .... R. Lamb
15 0 Habalook, C. Bell, 11-0 .... C. Pimlott
20 Llarne, K. Morgan, 11-0 .... A. Webb
25 000 Pounentes, G. Richards, 11-0 .... N. Doughty
31 0 Roman View, H. Dods, 11-0 .... C. Grant
38 00 Whetstone, T. Craig, 11-0 .... J. Mooney 4
9-4 Snow Blessed, 3-1 B And K Emperor, 5-1 Czernin, 8-1 Pounentes, 10-1 Habalook, Gandolf, 12-1 Whetstone, 14-1 Aladyat, 16-1 others.

1.45 JOHN JOYCE HURDLE (Handicap: £1,127: 2m)
1 p-00033 Poker Player (D), M. W. Easterby, 4-12-1 .... P. Tuck
2 004101 High Hills (D, B), T. Craig, 7-11-7 .... R. Lamb
3 21-0000 Bertie Me Boy (D), M. H. Easterby, 6-11-0 .... A. Brown
5 000000 Corker (D), W. A. Stephenson, 5-10-11 .... Mr E. McIntyre 4
7 f222-00 Brave Fellow, J. Fitzgerald, 7-10-11 .... T. Carmody
9 102-000 Burma Pink (D), A. Smith, 8-10-10 .... C. Grant
10 300141- Haighall (D), K. Morgan, 7-10-10 .... A. Webb
15 3-01000 Colourfull Paddy (CD), G. Richards, 6-10-0 .... N. Doughty
18 u-00000 Jean Marjorie (CD), G. Lockerbie, 6-10-0 .... C. Hawkins
19 2122-0p Malbern (D), S. Leadbetter, 5-10-0 .... M. Barnes
21 110800 The Arkesden Axe (D), R. Johnson, 4-10-0 .... D. Wilkinson 4
22 0-pp000 Golden End (D), R. Cross, 10-10-0 .... D. McCaskill 7
4-1 Brave Fellow, 5-1 Poker Player, 6-1 Bertie Me Boy, High Hills, 8-1 Haighall, 10-1 Corker, Colourfull Paddy, 12-1 Burma Pink, Jean Marjorie, 14-1 Arkesden Axe, 16-1 others.

2.15 HORDEN STEEPLECHASE (Handicap: £809: 2½m)
1 140f12 Castle Arch (D), R. Woodhouse, 9-11-12 .... P. Tuck
2 122314 King Vulture (D), G. Richards, 8-11-5 .... N. Doughty
3 341041 Easby Gold (CD), G. Lockerbie, 6-10-9 .... C. Hawkins
5 f01100 Gordon's Lad (D), J. Wilson, 7-10-7 .... Mrs G. Rees 4
6 3300pp Carnival Day (C, B), T. Fairhurst, 10-10-6 .... C. Fairhurst
7 0-02102 Quay's Luck, Denys Smith, 6-10-0 .... C. Grant
2-1 King Vulture, 5-2 Castle Arch, 4-1 Quay's Luck, 6-1 Easby Gold, 8-1 Gordon's Lad, 14-1 Carnival Day.

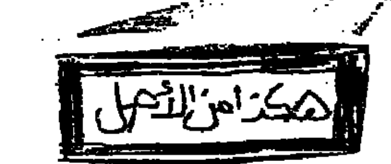
2.45 MARDEN STEEPLECHASE (Novices: £820: 3m 600yd)
1 1-0f314 Be Free (B), M. Camacho, 6-11-12 .... A. Brown
3 3131-21 Hallex Pep, M. Dickinson, 7-11-12 .... T. Carmody
8 0p-u1p Athon's Pride, J. Blundell, 7-11-2 .... D. Dutton 7
9 00 Blackhills Boy, R. Robinson, 6-11-2 .... N. Pepper 7
10 03-p0p4 Brookroyd, J. Doyle, 7-11-2 .... J. Doyle
11 pf0 Count Vroncky, B. McLean, 8-11-2 .... S. Charlton
12 Dawn Cloud, C. Bravery, 8-11-2 .... —
15 000/pp0 Frashawe Fabiola, Mrs J. Cundall, 8-11-2 .... P. Charlton
16 0/0000- Flimstar, A. Smedley, 6-11-3 .... Mr R. Smedley
17 00 Holbrook, K. Stone, 7-11-2 .... C. Tinkler
20 110-340 Marnik, K. Oliver, 7-11-2 .... Mr T. Dun
22 2-p030p Patient Knight, R. Cross, 8-11-2 .... K. Whyte
23 0/000p4 Powers, F. Taylor, 8-11-2 .... C. Hawkins
24 0/3-00p0 Rabid, J. Millington, 7-11-2 .... Mr P. Millington 7
27 p0u024 The Manufacturer, R. Woodhouse, 9-11-2 .... P. Tuck
28 f-20300 Toonfit Brig, G. Renilson, 8-11-2 .... D. Atkins
Evens Hallex Pep, 5-1 Marnik, 9-2 The Manufacturer, 7-1 Be Free, 12-1 Brookroyd, 16-1 others.

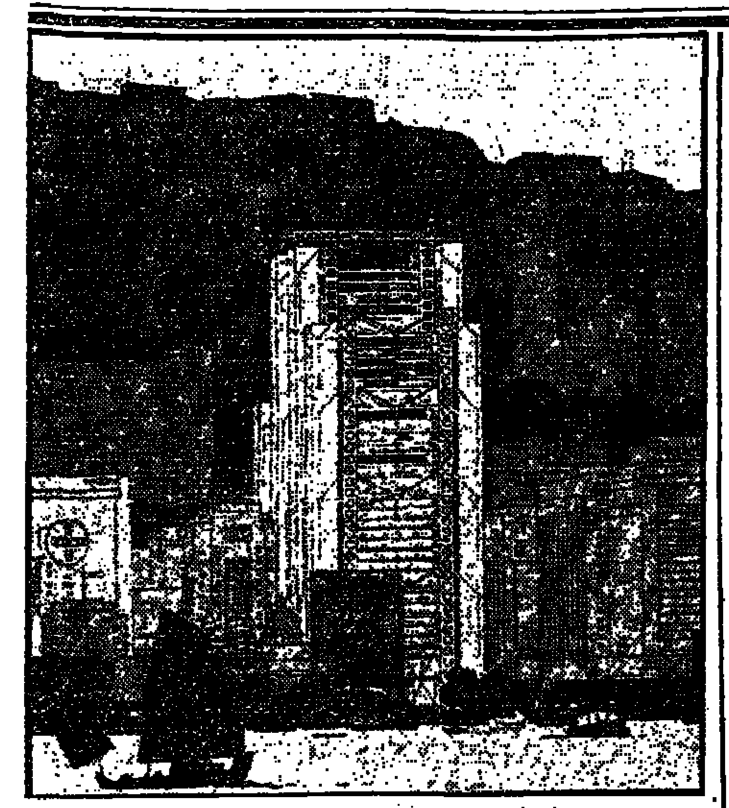
3.15 WOLSINGHAM HURDLE (Novices: £345: 2m)
3 0p400 0 Arkengarthdale, N. Bycroft, 7-11-0 .... A. Stringer 7
4 00 Armenos, R. Johnson, 5-11-0 .... N. Thomson 7
5 00 Avantie (B), J. Wilson, 5-11-0 .... C. Grant
7 00o Ben Gorm, K. Jewell, 5-11-0 .... P. Murphy 4
8 0pp-00 Billy Bales (B), J. Townson, 6-11-0 .... D. Lancaster 4
9 0 0-00 Cathmaria, M. Dickinson, 7-11-0 .... T. Carmody
10 020400 Cuenca, R. Woodhouse, 6-11-0 .... P. Tuck
11 0 Dalham, J. Wilson, 6-11-0 .... Mrs G. Rees 4
12 342004 Danny Bidder (B), M. Camacho, 5-11-0 .... R. Lamb
13 f Fox Gresnad, C. Pinkham, 6-11-0 .... S. Kettlewell 7
14 0 Gambling Fox, K. Morgan, 5-11-0 .... A. Webb
15 000-0 Gay Lucky, Miss E. Williams, 6-11-0 .... W. Redfern
17 -000fdf Jaime Porter, J. Barry, 6-11-0 .... J. Hansen 7
19 00 Lady Craigie, S. Leadbetter, 6-11-0 .... M. Barnes
20 0 Miss Laudenne, G. Lockerbie, 5-11-0 .... N. Balmer
22 0-00000 Private Business, W. A. Stephenson, 5-11-0 .... G. Gray 7
25 Scalby Bells, R. Robinson, 7-11-0 .... M. Pepper 7
26 Solomon Monday, P. Calver, 5-11-0 .... C. Tinkler
4-1 Danny Bidder, 5-1 Gambling Fox, Jaimie Porter, 6-1 Avantie, 7-1 Miss Laudenne, 8-1 Private Business, Solomon Monday, 10-1 Dalham, 14-1 Armenos, 16-1 others.

Sedgefield selections

By Michael Seely

1245 My Buck. 1.15 Pounentes. 1.45 Poker Player. 2.15 EASBY GOLD is specially recommended. 2.45 Hallex Pep. 3.15 Cathmaria.





An artist's impression of the new Hongkong and Shanghai Bank Corporation headquarters.

Humanizing the tower office block

The new headquarters for the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation, revealed yesterday, will, when complete, be one of the world's most interesting (and possibly most expensive) commercial development. As far as the bank is concerned the interest lies in the fact that their building will have a more efficient use of space than anything comparable.

The architects, Foster Associates, are British and won this gigantic commission in international competition against six other architectural firms, and the prime interest is to see what Foster is up to now (in these post-Sainsbury Centre days when everything has pediments in glass-reinforced plastic) and whether he has succeeded in his stated aim to "humanize the tower office block".

It is clear from the plans and models that the building is a development of the mainstream strand of high-technology. That is to say that all techniques—whether industrial or constructional—are to be used to create the optimum building interior, and that the exterior will be the result of that. Being Foster the result will be good—a 41-storey tower of much greater interest and vitality than one normally gets in buildings of that scale.

What we shall *not* be getting is any truck with the current trend of miscalled post-modernism wherein it is believed that the exterior of a building has an independent existence and should be designed accordingly.

The building has three main elements: a structure of eight, huge fourlegged steel pylons like something out of *War of the Worlds*: the office and banking accommodation, mainly glazed, which are slung between them, with horizontal blinds giving a screenlike effect; and the service towers, which include staircases and liftshafts, some of which will be clad in glass.

It may sound muddled but the whole is an ordered vision. The useable space is at the centre supported by steel pylons, while the lifts and services run up the outside. The building has many similarities with the Pompidou centre in Paris in the way it is organized. But whereas the Pompidou services are covered in wood these Hongkong services are dressed in the height of architectural chic.

The building will face the main ferry landing in Hongkong, and thus be at the heart of the main commuter rush. The architects have devized one of the niftiest ways of attracting customers to a bank known to man as elevating the principal banking hall to the first floor, to allow the cummuters to scurry underneath from the ferry uphill to their offices. At the centre of the building is an atrium eight storeys high, glazed at each end. It is thus a very large space, but without the variety of some of the American atria in John Portman's hotel complexes.

At intervals throughout the building's height there are major double height reception areas. These have double banks of escalators and those who are familiar with Foster's development for Willis and Faver in Ipswich will appreciate the concept. What is different here is that in addition to these double height escalated spaces, escalators are provided throughout the building. Instead of lifts being made the sole form of travel, they are instead limited to fast commuter travel—debouching at these four receptions.

Staff and visitors are then expected to complete their journeys on these escalators. There seems to be evidence that this system gives a better security use of floor area and a far better *social* environment.

At various stages the building is stepped back to provide the necessary light angles for neighbouring buildings. Thus what begins as a three-bay building on the ground, has become a one-bay building by the time it reaches the helicopter pad at the apex.

The development size is more than one million square feet; its cost could reach hundreds of millions of pounds by the time it is fitted out with all necessary machinery. Despite that, the programme is to have the building finished within four years.

Foster and his team must be congratulated for this splendid competition success, and his determination not sim0ly to put up another block. It should be noted that other British architects are also winning overseas competitions; James Stirling in Germany and America; Darbourne and Darke in Germany and Italy.

What can possibly have gone so badly wrong with this country that our best architectural talent has to go abroad to find competitions to win and buildings to build?

Charles McKean
Architectural Correspondent



Geoffrey Smith

Can the Liberals patch an alliance?

> 'One of the curious features of the Liberal Party is that it has so many members who are not really interested in power'

If the opinion polls are to be taken at face value, we may be governed after the next election by a Liberal-social democratic alliance. For such a grouping to come from nowhere even to the top of the opinion polls is unprecedented. It is all the more astonishing as the grouping in question does not yet exist, and there can be no certainty that it will. A social democratic party will be formed before Easter, though no date has yet been fixed. But will it then be able to form an alliance with the Liberals?

The social democrats want an electoral agreement and are basing all their calculations on the assumption that there will be one. Logically such an alliance must be in the Liberal interest as well. For all the surges of support they enjoy from time to time, there is no prospect of the Liberals breaking through to power on their own. But in partnership with the social democrats all things would become possible. The social democrats may tap support which is not available to Liberals. Together they could be a formidable grouping in the next Parliament, and the prospect of a sizable representation of parties between Labour and the Conservatives—let us not worry for the moment whether they would be in the centre or on the left—would make it more worthwhile to vote Liberal than it has been for many a year.

Yet such dreams depend on Liberals and social democrats not blocking each other by appealing to the same voters in constituency after constituency. Ideally, they would divide up the country between them so that they did not fight each other anywhere. But the most that they can reasonably hope for is that each side will be given a clear run by the other in its best 50 to 80 seats. On paper the scope for such an agreement is excellent. The Liberals would stand down in seats where the MP in this or the last Parliament had joined the social democrats, and in a number of marginals where Labour ran well ahead of the Liberals last time. The social democrats would not run where there is a Liberal MP and in Tory marginals where the Liberal came a good second.

But what are the prospects for such an arrangement in practice? One of the curious features of the Liberal Party is that it has so many members who are not really interested in power. Politics is either their form of public service or a rather egreeable activity to be conducted with likeminded people. There are others who are interested in power but only at local level. Liberals in these categories will not easily be induced to back a social democrat in their own constituencies so that the Liberal Party at Westminster will stand a better chance of gaining office.

None the less, opinion within the party has been moved by the thrill of recent polls. Attitudes vary in different parts of the country—probably most hostile to a pact in Yorkshire, more favourable in the South, though with London a possible exception. The general trend is now more favourable than it was to Mr. Steel's chances of securing his cherished objective of an electoral agreement. But many a Liberal would display his prickles once again if the social democrats were suddenly to announce that they would contest a majority of seats at the next election, or if—which is not expected—they were to put up candidates for the county council elections in May, when the Liberals expect to do rather well.

Even if these perils are avoided there is not the slightest chance of a detailed plan being agreed at national level to determine which seats each party will contest. Local autonomy in the Liberal Party is too strong for that. Much will depend on personalities and on where the Liberals already have a candidate in the field: at the latest count they have 234 and the number is increasing all the time. The most that can be expected is for the conditions to be created centrally that will encourage local deals to be done.

This limited objective would still require a somewhat complex courtship. There is no thought of fighting the election on a common manifesto, but Mr Steel enumerated last week five policy priorities which the social democrats would have to accept. These would be incorporated in a declaration of intent that would have to be agreed before the summer recess if it was to be put to the Liberal conference in the autumn.

At this conference Mr Steel will not put his leadership on the line: he has promised his parliamentary colleagues that he will not do so. He will have to rely on his powers of persuasion to get the declaration approved. But he has been remarkably successful up to now in dragging his party along the course that he has set and he is likely to have the support, or at least acquiescence, of the rest of the parliamentary party.

The chances are that he will once again get the backing of the conference, but that will depend quite a bit on how much genuine cooperation there has been with the social democrats in the meantime. They are not likely to choke on any of Mr Steel's policy priorities, which most of them seem to believe in as much as he does. But it is hoped that the declaration would also contain a commitment to campaign on each other's platforms in the election. Liberals will also be much influenced by whether the social democrats work together with them in Parliament once they have made the break from Labour.

In other words, the Liberals will be looking for evidence of a close working partnership which might bring about the realignment of British politics for which they have been clamouring for nearly 20 years. But they are wary of simply acting as the midwife at the birth of a new Labour party. So they become suspicious every time they hear a social democrat claim to be the true inheritor of the Labour tradition.

This is understandable from the Liberal point of view, but it does not take account of the social democratic dilemma. How are they to keep the support of a good many traditional Labour supporters while breaking away from the party? If the social democrats cannot do that they will be politically dead, no matter how well they get on with the Liberals. If an alliance is to be formed, therefore, it must rest not only on policy agreement, which should not be too difficult, but also upon trust and tact, which may prove more elusive.

An alliance should suit both sides. The chances are that something will be put together, probably not so much a pact as a patchwork quilt, more impressive in some places than in others. But how much comes of it will depend on how each side responds to the key question with which it is presented. Are the Liberals serious in the pursuit of power, with all the compromises that that must entail? And do the social democrats want the Liberals as more than an electoral conveniece?

Refloating a lost piece of Tudor history

The most ambitious and exciting project of its kind in the history of marine archaeology has passed the point of no return this month with the final decision to raise Henry VIII's flagship from the seabed and bring her ashore next year.

The Mary Rose, built in 1510 and enlarged in 1536, sank during a brush with the French in the Solent in 1545. The mud on which she has rested at an angle of 60 degrees ever since has preserved not only most of the hull in unprecedentally good condition but also immense quantities of the personal effects of the 700 sailors and soldiers, nearly all of whom went down with her.

The rediscovery of the wreck in 1967 has proved to be an archaeological opportunity unique in both *quality and* quantity. It offers an unparalleled chance to find out about the way of life in England in the middle of the sixteenth century, including details of diet, clothing, craftsmanship, work, leisure and weaponry.

So in 1978 the *Mary Rose* Trust was formed with the aim of clearing the silt from the wreck, bringing up all manner of relics and then lifting the hull bodily and bringing it ashore by pontoon and ramp to form the centrepiece of a museum to be built for the purpose.

The President of the Trust is Prince Charles, who will be guest of honour at a reception in London on Tuesday to help raise the balance of the £3m needed to bring the ship ashore and put a roof over it. The Prince has taken his responsibilities seriously enough to join the hundreds of volunteers in diving on the wreck to see it for himself.

This month's decision to go ahead with less than half the money raised is a bold one, but the results produced by the Trust's staff so far are already enough to justify the effort. They can be seen in an old bonded store in Portsmouth, now converted into offices and workshops full of water-tanks, cisterns, bathtubs and polythene parcels.

The Mary Rose may be a very old ship, but the methods in use to salvage the history she encapsulates are impressively modern. The technique of freeze-drying, for example, used to preserve relics is adapted from the latest instant-food technology. Delicate medical instruments have been used to probe cavities never dreamed of by their inventors, including the bowels of cannon.

The 23 full-time staff are enthusiasts to a man and woman. The principal fund-raiser and financial controller, for instance, threw up a successful (and much better paid) career as a senior executive at Marks and Spencer.

He is Mr Ian Dahl, who at 36 is coming as close as he ever *will* to his frustrated youthful ambition of being a naval officer by finding the sinews of war for this unique salvage operation. "I could not join the Navy because I am colour-blind and short-sighted," he said. "Even after 14 years in a good career with a very good employer, I jumped at the chance to come here and moved in a couple of weeks."

In his six months in the job, Mr Dahl has succeeded in finding American financial support, and his next target is Europe. Already his horizons extend beyond the greatest project of its kind to a "Defence of the Realm" museum consisting of exhibitions all over the Portsmouth area, including not only the Mary Rose and HMS Victory but many other historic ships and naval sites.

The archaeological director is Mrs Margaret Rule, aged 50. She estimates that she has now made up to 800 dives on the wreck as part of her work of supervising the recovery of relics. "Underwater you get a complete social cross-section which you don't normally get on a land site.

"The remains of cockroaches, beetles, seeds and food tell you a lot about what they used to eat in those days.



Photograph by Harry Kerr

Mrs Margaret Rule and Deborah Fulford examine a bronze cannon from the Mary Rose.

The Mary Rose is not so much a time-capsule as a frozen moment of history. Everything we have brought up so far comes from the upper levels of the wreck; it is entirely possible that we may even come across documents, which would be a fantastic find."

Chests containing clothes in remarkable condition had already been found and there was no reason why there should not be more such receptacles whose contents would include papers. One of Mrs Rule's worries is that there may be so many other worthwhile objects to be found that the recovery programme may be slowed down for fear of breaking valuable items.

The Mary Rose is important not merely because of her state of preservation but also because she represents a watershed in naval strategy. She was one of the very first ships built as a warship, and also one of the first capable of firing broadsides. With her lines of cannon below deck she is an early ancestor of the ship of the line and thus of her future near-neighbour, HMS Victory.

She sank a mile offshore within sight of Henry VIII, probably as the result of a design fault. It is thought likely that her gun-ports were open and that she shipped a fatal quantity of water through them as she heeled over while manoeuvring against the French, whose claim to have sunk her by gunfire is natural but dubious.

Her original displacement was 600 tons, remarkable in itself for the period, but she reached 700 tons after conversions. She had a mixed armament of 91 guns and a normal complement of 415 men, including 185 archers and pikemen. On July 19, 1545, she was the flagship of Vice-Admiral Sir George Carew, commanded by Captain Roger Grenville, and is thought to have had 700 aboard when she went down. Many of them will have been found by the time she comes up again to make a naval exhibit unique in the world.

Dan van der Vat

That old Titanic sinking feeling

New words and new meanings: an occasional series by Philip Howard

What with one thing and another, this may not be the most diplomatic moment to bring up the subject of the Titanic at New Printing House Square. But I think that there is evidence that our popular modern metaphor about the Titanic as the unsinkable that did the unthinkable has a hole below the water-line. I can find no contemporary evidence that the Titanic was regarded as virtually unsinkable until after she had sunk. With hindsight we have created the myth because it makes a more dramatic metaphor. We now potently and powerfully believe that the Titanic was hailed as unsinkable and the subject of much ballyhoo to that effect before her maiden and fatal voyage.

If so, one might ask why the Olympic did not have similar heartening claims made for her. She was almost identical to the Titanic, and had been in service for 10 months before the Titanic's maiden voyage. *The Times*, reporting the launch of the Olympic (October 21, 1910) and her maiden voyage (June 14, 1911) makes much of her size, the problem of launching, the luxury of accommodation, and the fact that her lower speed (21 knots) allowed her to have smaller engines than the Mauretania and the Lusitania. It is stated as a matter of statistics that she had 15 bulkheads or watertight compartments, but the conclusion is not drawn that this made her unsinkable.

The launch of the Titanic, a[t] that time the largest ship i[n] the world, was reported in *The Times* on June 1, 1911. We remarked that she would be heavier than the Olympic when fitted out; but, being lighter a[t] launch, she caused a smalle[r] wave. When the Titanic saile[d] from Southampton on April 10 1912, little attention was pai[d] or comment made, other tha[n] short pieces about the luxur[y] of the accommodation, th[e] attractiveness of the sports faci[l]ities, and so on. Nobody wa[s] writing about unsinkabilit[y]. There is a typical and, wi[th] hindsight, ironic example at th[e] end of the leader in *The Ma[n]chester Guardian* of April 1[…] It is writing about the nove[l] arrangement of the promenade deck: "On the upper deck one can look through the windows, and safely sheltered from contact with the outer air obtain [a] full view of the sea, so muc[h] appreciated by passengers. Le[t] us be grateful for that provi[…]sion."

Only after the underwate[r] spur of ice (from an ice[…]berg that had probably recentl[y] overturned and was showing [a] dark side; there was no wind o[r] swell to create ripples round i[t]) had ripped 300 feet out of th[e] Titanic's starboard side, did th[e] press start to write about invu[l]nerability. The word unsin[k]able occurs for the first tim[e] in a leader in *The Times* [o]n the day after the disaster: th[e] owners had done their best t[o] make this sort of ship unsin[k]able.

After the Titanic had gon[e] down, the press and the [t]w[o] inquiries resurrected the fe[…] that she had been built [t]o safety flotation standar[ds] higher than required by regu[la]tions then or now, with [...] watertight compartments, a[nd] so on. There was also much cla[…] resentment aroused by repor[ts] that greater efforts had bee[n] made to save the lives of firs[t] class passengers. The *Da[ily] Herald* claimed that 61 per ce[nt] of first-class passengers [had] been rescued, against 36 [per] cent second class and 23 th[ird] class.

The pathos and horror of t[he] disaster at once turned t[he] Titanic into a dramatic me[ta]phor for disastrous paradox. [A] quibble about the origin of th[e] metaphor may seem like, we[ll,] changing deckchairs on t[he] Titanic. But it was only aft[er] the *Titanic* sank that we start[ed] to talk of her as virtually [un]sinkable.

MOSCOW DIARY

My office phone rings. "Is that the newspaper *Times*?" a voice asks rather guardedly. I say it is. "I have to talk to you. I have something very important to say. We must meet." I demur and ask what he would like to talk about. "I cannot tell you now, but it is vital your readers know about this. Where will you meet me?"

There seems to be no escape. Okay then, I reply. I will be down on the street outside a certain shop at about 12.00. I am tall and will be wearing a brown coat.

It looks like being yet another wild goose chase. I go down to the street, and there is a young man in jeans with a fur hat, padded coat and the inevitable battered briefcase, standing looking around. After exchanging glances once or twice he comes up and asks if I am the correspondent he is waiting for, and then as we walk round the block he starts his story.

Thus begin dozens of sad accounts of personal tragedy, injustice and bureaucratic bloody-mindedness. The person in question has typically complained about some unfairness at work, quarrelled with his boss, created a scandal or tried to organize a petition and then lost his job. He has carried on with his campaign, and has been warned by the KGB to drop the matter. He has refused, and has been told he *will not get another job. So he* resolves to emigrate, only to find that the visa office will not consider his application.

In the end he decides to seek out a western correspondent and tell him all about it, with a sheaf of documents to prove his point. "I know you people are interested in dissidents and can help them", is the usual line.

I find these cases disturbing because they are based on a fundamental misunderstanding of the job of western correspondents in Moscow. We are not here as campaigners for any cause, good or bad. Dissidents are not *per se* of interest. Not everyone who has suffered some injustice needs to have his story related in the western press. There is *no* time, and frequently the case does not illustrate any important point about the Soviet Union—other than that the system is inflexible and vengeful to those who attempt to challenge it.

Finally, of course, there is nothing usually a western correspondent can do: he cannot lobby embassies, take letters, act as an intermediary or confront the authorities with the case.

He can, of course, write about it, and the authorities in recent years have hesitated to act against people whose names and aims are widely familiar in the West. But publicity is not necessarily a protection, especially for people whose misfortunes do not represent any principle arousing concern in the West or illustrate questions of principle.

Soviet citizens who call up western correspondents are either very brave or very naive. Almost every Russian is convinced, with good reason, that the phones are tapped. It is a mystery where they get the number: no telephone book has been published in Moscow for years, and the rare copies of the official list of Moscow's offices and business numbers do not list embassies or foreigners' numbers. You will not be told such numbers if you ask telephone enquiries or at the public information kiosks.

There is one old man who phones me regularly—usually at eight on a Sunday morning, bless him—to talk about his troubles. He was once a *children's writer, and is much* concerned that his stories have not been published abroad. Now and then he wants to know whether you could find him a publisher, but his usual complaints are about his neighbours, his flat, his unanswered petitions to Brezhnev and the central committee, his illnesses and so on. You can lay the receiver down, make yourself a cup of coffee, and return to find him still talking. One colleague punched an entire story on the telex without the old man drawing breath.

Another man, a former architect and restorer, has phoned virtually every correspondent in Moscow, and it is only after we have compared notes that we have found his initially plausible and interesting accounts of the persecution of the Tolstoy Vegetarian Foundation, the restoration of the Armenian "embassy" in Moscow, or the saga of the closing of a section of the Bolshoi Theatre are less reliable than they appear.

Some of those I have met are frankly odd. "I was a KGB agent," a big man with a beard once said, beginning his history, and he told me about all the people he had been required to make love to during the course of his duties. Every so often we had to make a detour to avoid a large building where he believed microphones were installed in the outside walls.

You invariably have to meet those who phone on the street. Police guard the entrance way to every block where foreigners live, and any Soviet citizen who wanders in without an official invitation will be stopped and asked his business.

But meeting unknown people *has its problems. One man told* me he was short, wearing jeans and a cap an dcarrying a case. I went down to the appointed trysting place, to see his figure disappearing into the shop. I followed, sidled up to him and asked: "You phoned me?" He gave a look of horror and astonishment and quickly backed away. I went out of the shop, and there was another short man wearing jeans and a cap and carrying a case.

One colleague who promised to pass on a copy of some newspaper article agreed to meet a man in a brown coat carrying a newspaper in 15 *minutes. He went down* and gave the article to the grateful caller. Some months later he was introduced to a man who said he was the one who had called, and he had waited for a long time in vain for the journalist. Somebody else, it appeared, had overheard the arrangement and had been quicker off the mark.

Not all those who call up are cranks. Some have genuinely sad stories to tell—the translator and broadcaster from Moldavia, for example, who was sacked when his parents became Jehovah's Witnesses, and was *told he would* never be given a job again as long as his parents were alive. He was given an exit visa to Romania, where he had relations, but the Romanians would not accept him. He then applied to go to a west European country, but this time the Soviet authorities would not give him a visa.

"What am I to do", he asked in despair, "kill my parents?" He came all the way to Moscow to seek help, and threatened to storm into the American embassy and stay there until allowed out. It took a lot of talking to persuade him that this would be *fruitless, and the only thing* to do was to persist in his applications.

Recognizing those who have a publishable story to tell can be difficult. Usually it turns out that the man simply wants his name in the newspapers thinking that this will help him emigrate. Two men came to a Western news agency last year, and one insisted that his companion had tried to reveal a colossal scandal in the Black Sea resort of Sochi involving top party officials, for which he had been dismissed and then threatened. Six months later a Soviet newspaper broke the sensational story that the mayor of Sochi and his associates had been jailed for 13 years for corruption.

One problem is that Russians have no conception of how the Western press operates, imagining it simply to be the reverse image of their own.

One man came down fr[om] Lithuania to present an Ame[ri]can colleague with a bundle [of] documents, 10in thick, of [his] views on détente, which [he] wanted published in [the] United States.

"I can't do that", the jo[ur]nalist said. "My paper d[oes] *not even print all the speec[hes] of Jimmy Carter.*" The m[an] looked as though he had be[en] punched in the face. "Y[ou] mean I don't have the right [to] say what I want in the W[est] either?", he asked in astoni[sh]ment. "Yes, in general you [do] but you cannot insist on h[av]ing your views published in [a] newspaper." The man co[uld] not see a distinction: "It [is] the same thing. The ne[ws]papers are stopping me sayi[ng] what I want in the West [as] well."

Humanity and Western jo[ur]nalistic tradition dictate t[hat] *you should at least listen sy[m]*pathetically to those who ha[ve] a story to tell. But it is hard [to] explain to Russians that th[ey] might as well tell it to t[he] wind for all the help you c[an] offer them. And too oft[en], alas, that is the case.

Michael Biny[…]

هكذا من الأصل

CHINA

China has entered 1981, the year of the cockerel in the traditional zodiac, in a peculiarly ambivalent mood. The sentences on Chairman Mao Tse-tung's widow and nine other people accused of counter-revolutionary activity have cleared the air somewhat, and the two-year suspension of the death sentence on her almost certainly means she will be spared execution and live out her life in prison.

This abstention from the growing tendency towards political executions in many countries shows that the Chinese leadership is sufficiently self-confident to exercise leniency towards its bitterest opponents. It symbolizes the humanizing mood which underlies many of the political, social and economic reforms of recent years.

There will, however, be people in government and party circles who will feel that the sentences on Jiang Qing and the others were too lenient, and that their continued existence represents a threat to the authority of the leadership group around vice-chairman Deng Xiaoping.

In this sense it may be more difficult for Mr Deng to swing the country completely behind his bold and sweeping reforms, about which many people in positions of authority are worried because they depart so far from the teachings of Mao.

Others will criticize the sentences on the ground that the accused have been spared stiffer punishment because they were once prominent leaders, whereas ordinary persons would have been executed for doing a hundredth of what Jiang Qing is accused of.

The common people have shown no sign of excitement at the sentences; they have been too busy preparing for the lunar new year festival which took place on February 4 and 5. Like the Western Christmas, it is a time for frantic shopping, eating and drinking and visiting relatives.

This year many people have something special to celebrate—the reunion of a married couple previously assigned to separate jobs in different parts of the country, the return of a son or daughter from the rural areas, or the payment of compensation by the Government to people whose property was confiscated in the Cultural Revolution. This is all good news for the city dwellers, but what of the peasants who make up 80 per cent of the population?

The new year is especially important to the peasants, for whom it is associated with the crop year and is the focus of many traditional superstitious or religious practices, by no means all abolished.

The peasants can look with some satisfaction on the past year, during which they have boosted their cash incomes, and reverted in many cases to tilling the land in groups smaller than the productions teams which are supposed to be the basic unit of the rural communes.

Working as single families is no longer considered opprobrious. They have been able to grow more cash crops and sell their surplus produce at its market value, while simultaneously receiving higher prices for grain procured by the state, and for meat, fish and eggs.

None the less, the present policy of diversification in agriculture does raise the likelihood of grain shortages in more localities than at present, which will have to be made up by relief supplies from more prosperous areas. Some of the poorest villages will go deeper into debt by borrowing grain to keep themselves going until the next harvest.

China's peasants are used to hard toil and often indebtedness, one reason for the success of the communist movement in the 1940s. But the new freedoms they enjoy—to plant more profitable crops and refuse to contribute labour to state or communal construction projects without extra pay—have given them the taste for the better life.

In the past, such rising expectations in the country were to some extent met by siphoning peasants into the cities to work for cash wages on big construction projects. But many such projects have been cancelled or delayed for two or three years, and far from wanting peasant labour, the cities are struggling to employ the workers who have become redundant.

An obvious outlet for surplus labour is the army. In the past, recruitment into the armed forces was considered a fine way for a young man or woman to get away from the stultifying rural environment and learn a trade, while bringing honour and sometimes material assistance to the family.

Now there has been a sharp drop in the number of young people willing to undertake military service, which is not mandatory in China. Recruitment drives are being launched, but peasant families are no longer so ready to sacrifice a pair of strong arms.

In the cities, more and more young people see the chance of obtaining higher education, embarking on a career, or even starting a small business, which is no longer banned.

It is not surprising if some of the top generals and regional commanders have recently been showing signs of restiveness at Mr Deng's policies, from which they have not benefited. On the contrary, they have seen their spokesmen elbowed one by one out of the Politburo.

While reasserting its traditional control over the armed forces, the party leadership has also shown its prerogative of decision making in economic matters anywhere in China—by suddenly slashing big industrial construction projects and halting imports of most forms of foreign-made machinery and equipment.

Engineers and salesmen from Japan, Western Europe and North America are beginning to pack their bags, as work has come to a halt on numerous big industrial sites across the country. The idea is to enable the planners to take a fresh look at investment priorities and efficacy of equipment use.

Yet the Chinese economy is still fundamentally sound, being rooted in the soil, and still only marginally affected by economic trends in the developed world. The main problem caused by the cutback in heavy industry will be the reemployment of the redundant workers.

Some workers will find employment in the textile and light industries, which are expanding fast. But the shadow of unemployment in the cities is lengthening as more school-leavers come on the job market, in addition to young people who have returned from the countryside.

The other big problem affecting all sectors of society is the growth of apathy, cynicism and refusal to accept responsibility, caused by the political twists and turns and the ups and downs in the leadership, reversal of propaganda trends and so on. Chinese people are by nature industrious and enterprising, and it is astonishing how those qualities have been damped by three decades of socialism.

The party press inveighs daily against "going through the back door"—meaning corruption and nepotism. If China is to make the national recovery which has eluded it for a century and more, it will be through enlightened appeals to the self-interest of the mass of the people, who no longer believe in an earthly paradise to be built on the writings of Marx or Mao.

David Bonavia
author, *The Chinese*





photographs: Richard & Sally Greenhill

Some tightening of screw likely

Political and social reform is to be the keynote of the 1980s in China, as the policies of the post-Mao leadership are consolidated and translated into reality.

Liberalization is the purpose of most of the reforms already declared, but there are certain key areas where the rights of the individual to free self-expression will not be measurably enhanced, and may even see a tightening of the screw.

The late Chairman Mao's definition of political freedom was the right to discuss public affairs openly, and to criticize other people in public. But under Mao these freedoms were relative, and were accorded only to the left-wing faction holding sway at any particular time in any part of the country. As Mao's widow, Jiang Qing once said, "only the left has the right to rebel".

Expression of an opinion which Mao's group considered deviant, or misjudged criticisms of one's superiors, could and often did bring personal disaster; self-expression was actually supressed more severely in Mao's later years than at any time in Chinese history.

The present leadership sees freedom of expression not as a goal in itself, but as a way of rationalizing social institutions through constructive criticism and, while high officials are expected to submit to criticism from the public, the people voicing it had better be sure they have their facts right, and are prepared to carry their complaint all the way to the top if necessary.

The model of this type of constructive criticism last year was a cook in an expensive Peking restaurant, who denounced the Minister of Commerce for treating himself to cut-price banquets. The young cook was eventually vindicated, but only after he had met strong opposition from his workmates who thought it inadvisable to "rock the boat". He ended up a hero, but he could just as easily have lost his job.

A good legal system is the basis of all freedom in society, and just over a year ago the process of drafting comprehensive legal codes was begun with the publication of a new criminal law and law of criminal procedure.

There is still no systematized civil code in China, and the tradition of sorting out disputes through arbitration by the authorities on the spot is still widely used.

The acute shortage of people with training and experience in legal work is a severe hindrance to the implementation of the new codes, but it will be solved in time.

What remains to be seen is whether the Communist Party will stick to its pledge not to interfere in the legal process for political ends. No other communist country has reached such an ideal state.

More tangible for the mass of the people are the liberalization measures in culture, education, the arts and the news media. Turning on the television in the evening, one may see African dancers, or a film made in Hongkong about the tribulations of a dance-hall hostess.

Foreign news is dominated by up-to-date clips bought from the big western networks—a far cry from the dismal news programmes of a few years ago, which used to end with the announcement: "Here is a summary of tomorrow night's news".

The favourite television series is an American production about espionage and sabotage in the Second World War. The Chinese cinema is also much livelier than before, with thrillers, comedies, romantic love stories and, above all, films denouncing the evils of the Cultural Revolution. The productions are stagey and stilted, but the enthusiasm over saying something new is unmistakable.

Problems of sex, especially the wedding night, have been dealt with sensitively but realistically in a special supplement to the national women's magazine, which sold in large numbers.

Sometimes people go too far, in the eyes of the party, as in the case of a small printing shop which was turning an extra penny by printing copies of a Japanese zodiac which identified people with flowers rather than with constellations. It was in great demand until printing was stopped by the authorities.

Trivia much of this certainly is, but it takes years of being deprived of trivia to make people realize how much it contributes to the colour and interest of their lives.

On a more serious level, the party has reinstituted local government elections, and there is often a choice of candidates, though not always. The leaders have declared frequently that they want to see a real separation of functions between local governments and the party committees.

The party plans to opt out of day-to-day administration, and concentrate instead on general matters of policy.

continued on page IV

Leadership

Purge of leftists reaches culmination

Somewhat contrary to the wishes of its leaders, the past year has shown that in China politics still rules all. The principal event of recent months has been the trial of Jiang Qing, chairman Mao *Tse-tung's widow, and nine* other people, on charges of counter-revolutionary activity, including, in the case of some defendants, an attempt to assassinate Mao himself.

The trial, proclaimed as an exemplar of the new legal code introduced last year, was run as a political showpiece, with incessant prejudicial comments in the national media, and minimal opportunities for the accused to defend themselves.

The other important event has been the removal of Mr Hua Guofeng from his post as Chairman of the Communist Party, a move which has yet to be formalized but which is regarded as almost certain. Mr Hua's enforced resignation is the culmination of the process of ridding the leadership of residual left-wing influence from the Mao era, and has been masterminded by Mr Deng Xiaoping, the Vice-Chairman and the country's leading strongman.

The ousting of Mr Hua has been only the most notable incident in Mr Deng's long drawn-out purge of leftists and those who thought they could line up with them to oppose Mr Deng's increasingly violent assault on Mao and his ideas.

Most prominent in the Deng group are Mr Hu Yaobang, appointed Secretary-General of the party last year, and Mr Zhao Ziyang, who took over the post of Prime Minister from Mr Hua after a meteoric rise from provincial officialdom.

Mr Hu is widely rumoured to be about to succeed Mr Hua as chairman, but there have been other reports suggesting that the chairmanship may be abolished altogether, thus returning the party to the mould of the ruling parties of East Europe. In either case, Mr Hu would nominally be head of the party, athough he would still be subordinate to Mr Deng in all practical matters. Yet another version has it that Mr *Hua will* not become a focus of opposition to Mr Deng.

Marshal Ye has become increasingly alienated from Mr Deng because of his defence of Mao's reputation, at any rate his refusal to see it pulled apart as much as some would like. Still exercising moral influence in the People's Liberation Army, Mr Ye is believed to have tried to keep Mr Hua in office as a counter-weight to Mr Deng, and as the symbol of the continuity of policy since Mao's death in 1976.

Mr Li and Mr Chen, both veteran economic planners and administrators, are believed to be in favour of a *somewhat more* cautious pace in social and economic reform, but they will probably retire soon through age.

Persistent rumours tell of a serious quarrel between Mr Deng and General Xu Shiyou, a deputy Minister of Defence and until recently commander of the Canton Military Region.

Mr Deng is understood to be particularly intent on taking over the chairmanship of the party's Central Military Commission from Mr Hua. There are many grounds to believe that some top military commanders have been voicing opposition to Mr Deng's policies and he would doubtless like to bring them into line.

Mr Zhao's appointment as Prime Minister was soon followed by the cancellation of large numbers of heavy industrial projects, considered wasteful or misplanned, and of much of China's import programme for the next two or three years.

Other key figures in the leadership include Mr Ye Jianying, the Vice-Chairman, Mr Li Xiannian and Mr Chen Yun.

Having reportedly protected Mr Deng during the latter's second period of political disgrace in 1976, General Xu is thought to be in disagreement with the attacks on Mao, and resentful that he did not get the post of Defence Minister, which is still officially unoccupied since the resignation of Marshal Xu Xiangqian last year.

There are yawning gaps in the leadership because of purges and resignations, and the ranks of deputy prime ministers in particular have been thinned out. Fresh appointments are believed to be awaiting the plenary session of the Central Committee which is now unlikely to take place until after the Chinese new year, in early February, and the Twelfth Party Congress later in the year.

In the meantime, however, the country has to be run, and the main difficulty for Mr Deng's group is a simple paradox: his policies are bold and decisive, but the bolder they are, the more timidity they create among the middle-level bureaucrats who have to carry them out, and the slower they are in being implemented. Add to this the unease felt by many party members about the extent of "demaoization", and the fear of being victimized if they go along with it, when there is still a chance of another leftist administration at some time in the future, and the present degree of administrative stagnation and confusion is easy to understand. While any comeback by a leftist regime seems most unlikely from the vantage point of today, the habit of seeing politics as a cyclical process is deeply ingrained among Chinese administrators, who were schooled in a near-superstitious awe of Mao.

None the less, Mr Deng has been able to push through many reforms—some perhaps more evident on paper than in reality, others quite tangible and successful. *The restoration* of a measure of popular choice in local government elections, and encouragement to people to speak their minds, within certain limits, are healthy signs and very necessary after the long years of enforced conformism.

The new codes of criminal law and procedure, taxation, joint enterprises and protection of the environment, are laying down a basis for more rational and open government, supported by a greatly liberalized and renascent press. Unfortunately too many high officials still adhere to the old methods of dictatorial fiat and factional intrigue.

Factionalism is *one of* China's most tenacious problems, and it is difficult to see how middle-level administrators can be expected to shun it when it still so clearly dominates political life at the top.

David Bonavia

Economy

Meeting basic needs supplants industrial projects

The Chinese economy, undergoing radical readjustment, presents a picture of uncharacteristically violent change. The suspension or cancellation of hundreds of heavy industrial construction projects in hand early last year is already showing *results in the increased* pace of growth in light industry, to which enormously increased investments are being channelled.

Orders for foreign-made industrial plants have almost dried up, and some are being curtailed before completion of shipment. Those which China is obliged to accept are being put under wraps for the next two or three years.

The rationale for this change of policy is twofold. The present leadership feels the economy will never be healthy until it solves the basic problems of food, clothing and consumer goods for 1,000 million people. There was a poor harvest last year—*worse* than that of 1979. Partly to cope with the immediate food shortage, and partly to encourage diversification of agriculture away from grain, the Government is importing large amounts of wheat, mainly from the United States, over the next few years.

The other reason for the reduction in heavy industry has been the over-ordering of advanced plant from Japan and the West before China could make use of it effectively, with a consequent drain of scarce foreign exchange and few results to be expected in the short term.

Heavy industry—especially *steel—is considered to have* been grossly wasteful over the past decade and more, as a result of faulty planning and politically-motivated scorn for technical studies and rational use of equipment.

The oil and coal industries are also being cut back or allowed to stagnate for a while, despite the acute *shortage* of energy. This is justified by the leadership's declarations that more economic use of present energy sources can make big investments in non-renewable fuel reserves unnecessary for the time being. Oil has not quite matched last year's production figure of 106 million tons. Coal, at 606 million tons, is down nearly 5 per cent.

Steel, despite the latest reductions in investment, increased more than 7 per cent to 37 million tons, with rolled steel increasing from 25 million tons to more than 27 million tons. Chemical fertilizer showed a much needed increase of 17.5 per cent to reach nearly 13 million tons in 1980.

Electric power generation was up by more than 5 per cent to 297,000 million kilowatt-hours, and a further increase to 305,000 million kWh is planned for this year —mainly through new hydro-electric plants and more economic use of coal.

Light industries and textile plants increased output by about 17 per cent last year, while heavy industry as a whole showed only a 1.6 per cent increase—indicating that the new priorities have begun to bite.

Imports, mostly consisting of goods ordered before the new cutback policy went into effect, rose by 15 per cent to 27,700m yuan (£7,426m), and exports by 27 per cent to 26,900m yuan (£7,212m). Exports of agricultural and light industrial products fell slightly as a result of the poor harvest and as the world recession bit into demand.

Production of radio and television sets increased by 110 per cent and 84 per cent respectively, showing the *leadership's* concern with getting its political message across to the people—while providing more attractive and varied entertainment.

Other important indicators of concern for the consumer are bicycles (up 29 per cent), sewing machines (up 31 per cent) and watches (up 29 per cent). Watches and electronic goods are imported in significant quantities, although many of these are gifts to relatives from Chinese people living abroad.

The peasants benefited from increased rural power consumption which, at 37,000 million kWh was 14 per cent more than the 1979 figure.

The new economic policy *has clearly not* been adopted without debate and even conflict at the top. Semi-official news leaks say that Mr Hua Guofeng, who is expected to step down shortly from his position as chairman of the Communist Party, is being blamed for the setting of over-ambitious production targets which threw the economy into disarray. Most long-term observers of the Chinese economy feel this is only partly true, in the sense that Mr Hua adhered to the line of Chairman Mao Tse-tung in trying to build up a strong heavy industrial sector at the expense of the consumer. Numerous people were responsible for the excessive imports, which last year left China with a foreign debt of £1,447m.

The group around Vice-chairman Deng Xiaoping, Mr Hua's chief political rival, has certainly not been backward in authorizing the purchase of advanced industrial equipment from abroad.

Mr Hua was unlucky in his agricultural policy—a cornerstone of Mao's economic theory and a sphere in which he himself has long been active. The once hallowed Dazhai Production Brigade, a model of left-wing experiments and egalitarianism, was denounced as a sham last year and its leader, Mr Chen Yonggui, removed from the Politburo. Mr Deng's agricultural policy—emphasizing less collectivization, more material incentives, rural free markets, diversification and higher prices for crops—has carried the day.

Higher food prices have brought inflation, the existence of which has been officially admitted for the first time. The emphasis on market forces and more autonomy for *industrial* enterprises has led to widespread price increases, and late last year a nation-wide price freeze was declared and inspections were begun to bring down excessively inflated prices. Another contributor to inflation, which is thought to be about 6 per cent, has been the indiscriminate payment of bonuses to industrial workers without appropriate increases in productivity.

The widely proclaimed entry of China into world financial markets in search of investment capital has still not taken place, and lines of credit open to it in the big capitalist countries have not been taken up to *any significant* extent.

D.B

Social reforms

Single-child families get housing priority

Every year on the banks of the Yellow River, Chinese peasants battle with home-made weapons over the ownership of land uncovered by the river's receding waters. Land disputes like this are widespread throughout China; in Guangxi province alone several hundred people have been wounded or killed in recent years. Small wonder, then, that the Chinese Government is preparing a new land law.

Over the past four years, the Chinese have concentrated on changing social policy, with the result that a new criminal code, marriage law and birth control regulations have already been introduced. But evaluating the success of such social reforms, no matter how welcome, is a relative exercise.

Do you compare the situation with pre-liberation conditions, or with what could, or arguably should, have been achieved after 30 years of comparatively stable party rule? The Chinese attitude towards prison reform, mental illness, sexual deviation (even normal sexuality) are all being broadened, but can appear feudal.

Social changes are also unique in the degree to which political dogma is coupled with coercion of the community to shift behaviour in the desired direction. This process does not always go smoothly, as demonstrated by the "one is fine" birth control campaign that advocates single-child families. Launched in late 1979, the campaign has run into deeply-rooted resistance from the public.

In keeping with the new outlook of accounts-keeping, profitmaking China, the campaign is backed by economic reward, whereas 10 years ago ideological correctness was reward enough. Parents who promise to have only one child earn for themselves the private plots, and food and fuel supplies of a two-child family. They are given housing priority over everyone else.

At the same time, having a third child means the loss of 10 per cent of a family's wage packet and an extra 5 per cent levy for every child after that. The message is clear; big families go hungry while the childless and one-child families live in comparative comfort.

Despite the obvious attraction of a higher standard of living, young women still consider their older friends were lucky to have escaped the policy. In order to have a second child, a woman must run the gauntlet of intimidating interviews with her unit leader and risk the opprobrium of her peers for the chance to take her turn in the unit's pregnancy rota. For the birth of a second child is becoming an act of political defiance.

The determination of one peasant woman to continue a second pregnancy despite the equally strong pressure from a unit leader to abort had horrific consequences: She was eventually forced to have her illegal child in the fields, and according to a Chinese press report, the leader followed her and strangled the newborn. In revenge, the mother went to his home and strangled all three of his children with a piece of wire.

Not all of China's recent social policy changes have been so controversial. Sometimes, official policy coincides happily with economic pressure and community practice. For years, all over China, people have "worked the system" through a series of impromptu advertisements pinned on telephone poles and well-travelled corners proposing the exchange of jobs and assignments with others equally well qualified.

In this way, people who would never have been transferred had they relied on official channels, have rejoined their spouses and families in other cities and provinces. Now the Government is considering making these advertisements official, and a rash of essays in the press proposing the advertisement of job vacancies appeared last summer. The official rationalization was the need for the "interflow of qualified personnel". For the average man, it may mean a welcome loosening of the rigid fabric of Chinese society and an important new freedom.

Such signs of relaxation as there have been to date have been celebrated in the Western press as Western-style "liberalization". One cannot deny the *improvement* in consumer goods, the appearance of increased candour between Chinese and foreigners and the *Government's* attempts to standardize the social regulations which govern their society.

However, changes in social policy are not necessarily social reforms in the *Western sense,* leading to greater democracy or individual rights. They have more to do with economic decisions made by the party and state aimed at improving economic stability and, in the end, continued survival of the party.

Dinah Le

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Trade

Technology bought beyond means

The Chinese trade bubble has not burst, but it has wobbled to an inglorious halt. The promise of a few years ago has faded, equipment import projects are being cut back, postponed or cancelled, and Peking officials privately concede that the present economic slowdown — euphemistically called "readjustment" — may last into the mid-1980s.

With an annual value of about $36,000m, China's trade will continue to be important even during these lean years. But the jockeying by Western corporations for contracts has been so fierce that a great deal of disillusionment is now evident.

To put it crudely, the Chinese were so thrilled by Vice-Chairman Deng Xiaoping's economic liberalism that they went out and bought new technological toys and equipment beyond their capacity either to pay for or digest.

British trade with China in the first three quarters of last year fell by 11 per cent. British exports dropped by 23 per cent, while China's shipments to the United Kingdom market grew by 12 per cent. Britain was left with a still healthy surplus representing an annual rate of almost £90m.

Many other leading suppliers to China have fared as badly.

The United States is the major exception to the trend, with both exports and imports higher than the year before. But that is partly explained by China's continuing hunger for American farm products, as well as the somewhat exaggerated reputation which United States technology enjoys among long-isolated Chinese managers. Last year China spent no less than $2,000m on American wheat, cotton, corn and soyabeans.

Some business is still there to be done, especially in such obviously sensible areas as agricultural processing, pharmaceuticals and radio and television.

With the premium on imports of machinery and knowledge, it is only to be expected that China's purchases of steel would fall. In the first half of 1980 Japan, the major supplier, sent only half of what it had been shipping in the preceding six months, and that figure was the lowest half-yearly total for five years.

Feeding 1,000 million Chinese presents a tougher challenge every year, and Chinese caution runs almost to pessimism in the recent and current contracts for grain imports. Whereas Peking in the 1970s was buying only two million tonnes of grain a year, on average, from the Americans, for 1981-84 it has staked a claim to six million tonnes a year. That is going to eat up an uncomfortably large share of China's available foreign currency.

Apart from such special cases as foodstuffs, fertilizers and certain key raw materials for industry, the Chinese shopping list for machinery in the period ahead is likely to echo Schumacher's "small is beautiful". The grandiose schemes are suspect; but what Peking will buy is the modest six-figure machine tailor-made for the next stage of a particular industry's or plant's development.

And in this area it happens that British companies score, like Lancy with its effluent treatment equipment, or Bone Markham's tandem extrusion coating machinery, or the company which has just sold almost half a million pounds worth of shoe-making equipment through, of all people, a French agent.

China is also buying second-hand machinery—lorries from Japan, probably, and $750m worth of ships last year.

Otherwise the road to sales is by investment. Most of the 490 joint investment or collaboration ventures so far concluded with foreigners in Shenzhen, the most famous "special economic zone" set aside for this new development, are with Hongkong or Japanese partners. Mr He Yao, deputy director of Shenzhen's External Economic and Technical Relations Office, claims that investors from 33 countries have been to talk to his officials, and expansion is on the way—not only at Shenzhen but also at two other places in Guangdong province just opposite Hongkong, Zhuhai and Shantou.

In the first 15 months of the new joint venture law, up to last September, some 330 ventures were approved involving $1,800m, of which foreigners furnished over three quarters. Most of these were loose cooperation ventures rather than investment of foreign capital.

But there are a few interesting pointers to the future. Jardine Matheson, never to be underestimated in the China market, won the first big manufacturing joint venture for its Schindler lift and escalator enterprise.

Hitachi followed suit with a joint venture to make 380,000 television sets annually by 1984 in Fujian province. In the agricultural sector Guthrie and a Singapore consortium are investing £20m in a Hainan island oil palm venture in return for three quarters of the profits.

China's capacity to import, whether at a provincial or central level, will depend on its own exports. There is no evidence of a big increase to come, although China's official statistics show a 27 per cent increase last year to reach $18,000m. Since imports were up only 15 per cent, the visible trade deficit was cut to only $530m.

Of these total exports, however, the traditionally lucrative farm products and light industrial goods provided a smaller share than usual. The biggest increases were in heavy industry and minerals, and higher world oil prices were an important factor.

With imports there was a marked switch in 1980, the agriculture-related and light industrial categories jumping rapidly to account for more than half of the total. There was a corresponding fall in the intake of steel, metals and machinery (with instruments, about 28 per cent of the total).

Textiles have run up against the walls of protectionism in Western markets. The Americans, for example, found that China delivered over a million woollen sweaters to their market in one month alone last summer, so restraint was demanded. China faces certain limits to its earnings from this industry, although the ranks of potential markets for really cheap clothes go on swelling. Shanghai alone now ships more than $1m-worth of handkerchiefs a year to Argentina and Chile.

Other ways of earning foreign exchange are being pressed. To woo the foreign tourist, Coca-Cola and cosmetics (first Max Factor and now Shiseido) are being imported. New ways of squeezing money out of the overseas Chinese are surfacing, from issuing credit cards to selling grave sites at $1,000 a time.

The export of labour, on the pattern pioneered by South Korea in the Middle East, should also prove profitable.

China furthermore is hoping for substantial aid credits from the World Bank and United Nations agencies. A loan of $10,000m over five years, specifically to restore China's transport system and reequip its universities, is being talked about.

In these ways the Chinese expect to operate a healthy foreign trade over the next few years, with small deficits covered by modest credits or invisible earnings. Their own exports will become more varied and advanced, while their imports will see the small and the second-hand in better balance with the glamorous complete plant which does not always graft successfully to unfamiliar new soil and conditions.

Dick Wilson

The law

Restoring faith in the judicial system

The recent trial of Jiang Qing, Mao's widow, and her colleagues for counter-revolutionary activities was hardly the best advertisement for China's new system of criminal justice, established just over a year ago.

It was, in the main, a political show-trial. Even so, the accused had not been "broken" beforehand, and they did not make the false confessions that are usually the hallmark of such proceedings. They were entitled to lawyers of their choice. They could, and did, cross-examine witnesses and make statements and speeches. Moreover, the trial was to some extent public, and many millions of television watchers were able to watch Jiang Qing put up an extremely spirited defence.

The essential that was lacking was any indication that the verdict had not been predetermined. As show-trials go, however, it was perhaps closer to Nuremberg than to the Russian trials of the 1930s.

It was probably inevitable that a case of such fundamental importance to the political structure of the country would be distorted, and it would be unfair and unfortunate if the "Gang of Four" trial were taken as a typical example of the direction being taken by the Chinese legal system. The reality is more encouraging. Starting from a base of appalling chaos, the Chinese are attempting the daunting task of building up a fair and coherent system to govern a wide range of legal matters.

Up to 1977, for nearly a decade and a half, there was in effect no legal system. China was a lawless society; the whim of the ascendant faction was paramount and the laws that had previously operated were jettisoned.

Lawyers were among the first to suffer from the political upheaval. Branded as elitists, intellectuals, revisionists and counter-revolutionaries, most of them were sent to work in factories or on the land, and even those who escaped that treatment could no longer work as lawyers.

The law faculties in the universities were either abolished or became severely limited in what they could teach. There were no law graduates, and no legal textbooks were published. It is only in the past four years, since the overthrow of the "Gang of Four", that it has become possible to try to restore some form of legal order.

There are three elements in the present policy of the Chinese Government: first, to draw up new laws; second, to establish a core of lawyers, judges, administrators and other legal or para-legal persons; and third, to educate the people to understand and appreciate the law and to have respect for it.

The first is being achieved through the adoption of a number of new codes, the first seven of which cama into force last year. They deal with criminal law, criminal procedure, people's courts, people's procuracies, joint ventures, electoral law, and people's congresses. These are being followed by codes on civil law, civil procedure, taxation, corporation law, patents, and marriage and divorce. Interestingly, many of the codes are based on examples from Western countries and Japan.

Producing enough lawyers to participate in the system is more difficult than merely passing the laws. Apart from the batch of lawyers who have only just emerged from the law schools, the youngest lawyers in China are aged about 50. Many of those who practised before the cultural revolution are dead. Others are too old to resume their profession or do not wish to do so. It will take many years—probably more than a decade—even to reach the number of the lawyers who were active in the early 1960s. The legal needs of the country have greatly increased since then, particularly in the commercial field, where China's resumed contact with the West and Japan has opened up new demands for legal skills.

Attempts are being made to revive the traditional lawyers' associations in the big centres. Peking, Shanghai and Canton have already set them up again, albeit with greatly reduced numbers, and other cities are following. However, these can come nowhere near to meeting demand, and the appointment of non-lawyers to a range of legal or quasi-legal duties is therefore a necessity. These para-lawyers receive some training in the particular skills necessary for their jobs.

Judges and procurators are in any case not usually legally qualified, and it is easier for China, with its well-developed tradition of conciliation at the neighbourhood or factory level, and its use of people's assessors in criminal trials, to make do without the full panoply of qualified legal figures.

The third element of China's legal reawakening—the education of the masses about the law—is being effected by means of lectures throughout the country, discussions at local level, inviting ordinary people to trials, some of which are held in large theatres to enable thousands to attend, and full reporting and explanations in the press.

With the painful experience of Jiang Qing's trial behind them, the Chinese can now concentrate on the less spectacular but more difficult task of restoring credibility and efficiency to a legal system which they see as being of fundamental importance to the country's plans for the rest of the century.

Marcel Berlins
Legal Correspondent

Foreign relations

Year of advance in global engagement

Last year was not one of dramatic or measurable change in China's relations with its enemies or its friends. What did show a significant advance was the country's engagement with the world in a way that offers more grounds for confidence in its future.

Afghanistan might have been thought enough to ensure that China's hostility to Russia was given a new impetus. So it was, in denunciation and confirmation of China's view that the Soviet Union was rootedly expansionist; but China's involvement in the matter of warfare fell far short of what Russian suspicion constantly alleged. Relations remained cool and no serious border conflict developed.

The same could not be said of Vietnam. Talks between the two countries were cancelled on the Chinese side in March. In July there was trouble on the border, in October cross-border raids, in November and December artillery fire, each side blaming the other. Vietnam's belief that any withdrawal on their part from Kampuchea would certainly mean the substitution of Chinese domination in that luckless country was untouched by Chinese denials.

The wish to improve relations between India and China has often been expressed from both sides. But whereas in 1979 China's invasion of Vietnam sent the Indian Foreign Minister hurrying back to his country, so, in 1980, India's recognition of the Heng Samrin Government in Kampuchea prompted the Chinese Foreign Minister to cancel his intended visit. This took matters back to square one and revived memories of 1962.

Friendship did not get much warmer either. In an American election year President Carter had nothing to add; if anything he was on the defensive for having treated Taiwan rudely. China was alerted to danger by Mr Reagan's off-the-cuff comments on that island in August. Mr Ray Cline's even brusquer dismissal of Chinese claims drew some sharp comments from Peking.

With Japan and with the European Community the equable relations long established continued without any break. M Giscard D'Estaing was the notable European leader and he was lectured on the dangers of détente with the Russians and was certainly no more diverted from his view of the matter than all the other visitors from Europe who had preceded him. Naturally enough, the Japanese are made a little anxious lest China's hostility to the Russians should impose upon them an equal hostility with a country they have found it hard to get on with. But this risk was also not increased in the past year.

It should have been obvious by now how sensitive an issue Taiwan is to all Chinese who remember 1895 (China's defeat by Japan and cession of Taiwan) which perhaps American presidents do not always do, not to mention the Dutch who met a sharp reaction to their willingness to sell two submarines to the Government in Taipei.

Among neighbours China might have hoped for a better return from Mr Huang Hua's visit to ASEAN countries in the spring or from Mr Lee Kuan Yew's trip to Peking in November. Even the well-disposed General Prem Tinsulanond of Thailand did not get much encouragement in October for his pleas for greater Chinese flexibility over the Kampuchea problem since ASEAN can no longer go on backing a loser like Pol Pot.

In this connexion there are those who see signs of a change in Peking, if only because the signs have become mixed. It is even possible that China's obvious embarrassment at the commitment, dating from Mao's most euphoric revolutionary phase in the early 1960s, of aiding South-east Asia's communist guerrillas might be run down in the coming year. Was the return to his own country from Peking of an exiled Malayan communist leader, telling his countrymen on television how his outlook had changed, tacitly supported by his late hosts?

To this rather colourless record of no progress and even some muddle it is worth contrasting the peaceful China that is emerging from the post-Maoist transition. In the Middle East China has supported the Israel-Egyptian détente and earned Libya's angry breaking of cultural and economic relations on charges of "military collaboration" with the Egyptians. While China regretted—as many others did — President Carter's attempted use of American might to rescue the hostages from Iran, China has consistenly supported negotiation and never sought to justify Iran's breaking of diplomatic rules. The Chinese are sticklers for them. Similarly the Iran-Iraq war has been deplored as an unnecessary disturbance of the peace: a compromise should be sought.

These are all different attitudes from those that Mao made familiar in the past. As for deeds, they may be instanced, too, as a mark of China's change. In Tokyo early last year Mr Li Qiang, Peking's Minister of Trade, told the Japanese that China was ready to "adopt all the practices generally acceptable in world trade", a message that could be translated into an engagement to world peace, at least in the small but significant way of joining in at the United Nations.

Since China was elected to that body in 1971 in place of the rival government in Taiwan, Peking's attitude has been cautious, hesitant, sometimes suspicious or doctrinally inhibited, never as committed to the United Nations and its purposes as a country with so strong a tradition of peace-making might—given a weakening of its Marxist view of the world—be willing to engage in.

Last year seemed a turning point. From the United Nations Committee on Disarmament to the High Commissioner for Refugees, from UNIDO to the World Intellectual Property Organization, China became a participant and contributor. Add to this membership of the International Monetary Fund and World Bank and it might be argued that China's place among the five permanent members of the Security Council looks a good deal less hollow than when President Roosevelt first insisted upon it.

Such a commitment seems to suggest that the China that was faced by a war in Korea within months of the Government's emergence from two decades in the backwoods, and which then suffered two decades of upheaval from Mao's shifting view of a world in revolution, may be slowly moving towards more stable relationships, even if the 50 Russian divisions along their frontier are likely to prolong the mutual suspicions and mutual fears that have troubled many countries besides these two giants.

Richard Harris

Education

Schools are 'streamed' on hierarchical lines

The Chinese education system has emerged battered and shaken from the Cultural Revolution. Teachers are trying to regain the prestige they enjoyed in the early 1960s, while schools and colleges settle back into the buildings they lost to other organizations during the closure of all Chinese schools from 1966 to 1969. The *People's Daily* has called for a redistribution of investment away from heavy industry and into the schools and universities, and has pointed out that "without trained personnel, material construction will be unsuccessful".

When schools reopened in 1969, they were told to carry out a revolution in education by training a new generation of proletarian fighters well versed in the evils of revisionism and the criticism of Lin Biao and Confucius. Strident propaganda praised model pupils like Huang Shuai, who argued with her primary school teacher over ideological matters and became headline news in the national press. Examinations were banned, and teachers privately complained that classroom discipline was breaking down.

Today the Chinese education system is organized along strictly hierarchical lines, and the egalitarian rhetoric of the Gang of Four is heard no more. Instead, various types of schools have been designated to deal with various groups of students: key schools for the academically gifted, ordinary full-time schools for average pupils whenever possible, and "part-work, part-study schools" in poorer, mainly rural areas where state funds are insufficient to provide universal education.

Lying behind the transformation of the education system in the past two years is the regime's conviction that the distance which separates China from the developed world matters far more than the distance which separates the country's backward areas from the big towns. The national effort is directed at modernization of the economy, and schools, too, are expected to produce students who have mastered the skills the country needs.

The emphasis is no longer laid on improving schools in poor areas until they reach the standards of urban schools. Today the hierarchical division of each sector of education into "key institutions" and others is the pivot of official policy. Entry to key schools is limited to successful candidates in stiff tests. The examinations increase in difficulty as pupils move up through the system, until fewer than 5 per cent of middle school graduates gain places in institutes of higher education.

Since resources are limited, the key schools have priority throughout, to staff, buildings, money and of course pupils. There are key schools at national, provincial and local levels, each enjoying precedence in allocations of funds from their parent bodies (the Ministry of Education, provincial education bureaux or county education offices). Naturally, there is intense competition for places in national key schools and universities, and a predictably large number of places go to children from intellectual and professional families. In universities, the days of positive discrimination in favour of "worker-peasant-soldier students" have gone.

Young people today study furiously for entrance examinations, fully aware that admission to university is the first step towards a successful career. University courses which were shortened to an average of three years in the early 1970s have been restored to their pre-Cultural Revolution length of four to five years. Academic titles, once denounced as "bourgeois symbols of intellectuals' thirst for power", have been reintroduced across the board, and the practice of awarding degrees is soon to begin again. There has even been talk of allowing universities to conduct their own entrance examinations and to expel unsatisfactory students. Academics, while welcoming these moves to grant them more control, watch cautiously as the state loosens its grip on one sector of the educational system after another.

All this is a far cry from the university recruitment procedures of the early 1970s, when candidates were required to have spent at least two years after middle school "learning from the poor and lower-middle peasants" as part of the "down to the countryside" movement. At that time, recommendation by workmates followed by endorsement from the local party committee gave a candidate the right to be interviewed by university recruitment teams which toured the country in search of students who met strict ideological standards.

It was impossible for the universities to conduct even basic general knowledge tests on prospective students, since this would lead to the charge that they were "putting marks in command" instead of upholding the dictatorship of the proletariat in the educational realm.

The result was that many university classes were at a level better suited for middle school pupils; teachers who had already suffered considerable physical and mental distress were asked to teach courses which they regarded as insulting to their professional competence; and morale in the university departments never recovered from the damage done by factional disputes during the Cultural Revolution.

The present regime has done a great deal to improve the atmosphere in the staff rooms, not least by leaving teachers to get on with teaching. Instead of organizing long spells of "open-door schooling", when classes left campus for weeks at a time to live, work and study in factories or in the countryside, schools and universities now ensure that students spend most of their time studying. Manual labour and political meetings, which used to occupy so much time that academic work suffered, have been considerably reduced.

During the Cultural Revolution, Chinese schools were so vigilant in guarding against elitism that the quality of education was pushed into second place. Press articles gave warning that intellectuals were resisting the party's efforts to reform their outlook and insisted that working class control of education was necessary to guarantee a reliable generation of "revolutionary successors".

Today this concern over the social implications of educational policy has been replaced by an obsession with the economic effectiveness of China's schools. Deng Xiaoping is as unmoved by the elitist implications of the key school system as were the Cultural Revolution leftists by the damage done to academic standards during the worker-peasant-soldier years.

The reversal of Cultural Revolution policies could hardly be more complete. Even the aim of achieving universal primary education in rural areas seems to have been shelved until conditions are appropriate. A network of part-work, part-study schools has been reestablished in country areas where the state is unable to finance full-time schools for all, and many non-key schools are beginning to change their curricula to include more technical subjects. These policies recognize the reality that few country children (or town children who fail to enter key schools) are likely to proceed to higher education, but they also make the streaming of the Chinese education system more rigid at each stage.

It is easy to see why the present policies have been adopted and to sympathize with a regime struggling to make up for lost time. But resentment against key schools is certain to grow if the present policies continue unmodified throughout the 1980s. Only through a rapid development of correspondence courses and the new but immensely popular Television University can the educational ambitions and needs of China's younger generation be met.

Beth McKillop

The arts

Nostalgic indulgence in the past



People buying opera programmes in Peking.

Literature of the Cultural Revolution has been described as "immaculately conceived" since individual writers could expect little in the way of personal fame or financial gain and indeed they hardly existed, either writing as part of a team or hiding behind pseudonyms. It might equally well have been described as test-tube conception for all artistic creation was governed by regulations.

The desired result was to produce works which "present in a healthy way a revolutionary content, exalt with deep and warm proletarian feelings the Great Chairman Mao; exalt the great, glorious and infallible Chinese Communist Party". Writers had to eschew such "bourgeois concepts" as the complexity of the inner mind and human interest, which was no good because it connected people along lines other than those of class, and which, above all, followed the rule of prominence whereby the hero was indisputably and infinitely superior to class enemies. Anyone who tried to ignore these regulations would never get his work published and would probably be imprisoned.

Such rules were most strongly felt in literature but extended to the visual arts where painters ignored at their peril directives to avoid "paintings of lemons, cherries, dead fish, girls with flowers and similar trash". The medium was not subject to such restrictions, and Western oils could be used alongside the traditional monochrome brush style as long as the content conformed.

Traditional art forms continued to flourish but paintings of misty mountains always contained a line of electricity pylons and peasants working in paddy fields instead of hermits drinking wine in rustic retreats. Traditional new year prints pasted on doorways at spring festival still depicted fat babies but they, too, were overshadowed by pylons, tractors and other apparatus of bumper harvests under socialism.

Painters and writers were among those who suffered most during the Cultural Revolution and even those who were not "persecuted to death" endured considerable assaults on their integrity and confidence. Thus, though they reacted most enthusiastically to the downfall of the Gang of Four—the ballerina Dai Ailian says she danced on points all the way down the street—it has taken them some time to recover *professionally from* 10 years of restriction.

The immediate result of the downfall of the Gang was a passionately nostalgic indulgence in the past. The great novels of the 1930s and 1940s by Lao She, Mao Dun and Ba Jin were reissued together with other forbidden fruit, translations of foreign classics like Dumas, Shakespeare and Melville, and sold to crowds who queued for days.

Classic Peking operas were revived immediately by troupes who had continued to rehearse them between performances of model revolutionary Peking operas which had borrowed something of the style and form but thrown out the old stories. Similarly, Western classical music had been played by the Chinese symphony orchestras in rehearsal and was quickly brought to the public. These popular classical forms, both Chinese and Western, seem now to be firmly reestablished.

The first new works of significance to appear after the fall of the Gang were short stories about the injustice, persecution and misery of the Cultural Revolution. They are called "the literature of the wounded" after the most famous, Lu Xinhua's *The Wound*, which also brings in the theme of the harm done to young people such as the heroine of the story who cuts herself off from her mother who has been unjustly imprisoned.

She sees the only hope of a decent life in rejecting her past but when the Gang falls and her mother is reinstated, she realizes her mistake and rushes home. She arrives as her mother expires but the gloom is slightly relieved by a young man who managed to get there before her mother died and who will help to heal her "wound".

"Wound painting" is exemplified by Han Meilin's soft portrait of his dog which was clubbed to death by Red Guards. There has been some criticism of "wound literature" as unhealthy and pessimistic and, perhaps, because it reveals to the outside world too clearly the horrors of the recent past.

In denouncing the Cultural Revolution, cultural authorities find themselves in a difficult position for it may seem that there are now no rules.

This is not the case, for the most recent meeting of the National Congress of Writers and Artists (autumn 1979) concluded that "socialist literature should first of all eulogize the people and meritorious individuals. . . . Letting 100 flowers bloom does not mean blossoming merely for the sake of blossoming or taking a laisser faire attitude; it means blooming for socialism". Thus the goal is firmly established but there is still argument about the means.

The confusion felt by writers and artists must be increased by the baffling mixture of foreign imports including exhibitions of Piranesi and Courbet, cinemas showing *The Great Dictator*, Olivier's *Hamlet* and a puzzling film in the land of a million bicycles, *Convoy*, *The Man from Atlantis* on television and pin-up photographs of Gina Lollobrigida in a state of undress sold in Peking's main shopping street. There has also been a production of *Guess Who's Coming to Dinner* with an all-Chinese cast.

A further complication of the reversal of Cultural Revolution strictures has been the expansion of unofficial art and literature. Private circulation of literature and art went on during the Cultural Revolution but recently, in accord with calls for greater political freedoms, unofficial artists have sought official recognition. On rare occasions, works of merit like the futuristic political allegory *Peking in the year 2000* (featuring the return of the dreaded Gang) have made the transition from unofficial to official publication.

Sadly, not many unofficial works are so lucky, although not all of them are so good. An unofficial art exhibition at Democracy Wall included some terrible paintings by a young man who claimed that the Gang of Four had prevented him from going to art school. They may have been right but his sense of injustice and hope for a new chance, characteristic of the young people depicted in "wound literature", represent a problem for the tentative authorities in culture.

After the reprints and "wound literature" there are finally signs of new developments, particularly in the work of Shen Rong, a woman who writes powerfully of the abuse of dedicated professionals and of the problems of working women, and in the more popular writing of Zhang Yang. His best seller *Again I Clasp Your Hand* contains all the current favourite themes of unrequited love, the return of patriotic overseas Chinese and dedication to scientific work.

These themes reappear everywhere, in a ballet where a girl in a leotard wraps herself round Bohr's model, in the new genre of socialist science fiction where overseas Chinese scientists make discoveries for the motherland and in films such as *Love on Lushan Mountain* where a dedicated architect loves an overseas Chinese girl with an amazing wardrobe and the ability to climb mountains in high heels.

These ideas represent culture's contribution to modernization both in the incorporation of the outside world through the acceptable mediation of the overseas Chinese and through the fact that the hero of the 1980s is no longer a worker or a peasant but a scientist.

Frances Wood

Some tightening of screw likely in post-Mao era

continued from page I

guidance and settlement of contentious issues. It is thought likely that the party will be trimmed down from its present membership of 38 million, and doubtless many cadres who joined during the leftist upheavals of the Cultural Revolution will be removed from the rolls unless they fundamentally change their attitudes.

The villains of much fiction and drama today are former Red Guard leaders who try to ingratiate themselves with their erstwhile victims — honest officials returning from a decade spent in jail or down on the farm. Former landlords and capitalists are no longer cast as villains, since it is recognized that they have suffered enough.

Experienced bankers and traders who were thrown out of their jobs in the late 1960s have been compensated and begun showing up again to negotiate trade deals with foreign companies. China does not have so great a pool of expert knowledge that it could possibly have gone on with Mao's persecution of specialists, technicians and intellectuals.

The cult of Mao's personality — denounced as "modern superstition"—has been abolished, with his huge statues in many places being pulled down, or sawn up into manageable chunks for disposal. Even the revered former prime minister, the late Chou En-lai, is no longer the object of a posthumous cult. Mao's successor as party chairman, Mr Hua Guofeng, showed signs of creating a cult around himself, but it was a failure and he is expected soon to be out of office.

Efforts have been made to turn the National People's Congress into something more resembling a parliament, but it meets too seldom to exercise genuine authority. It can act mainly as a way of letting off steam and venting complaints, as well as a means of honouring outstanding people not necessarily members of the party. A "united front" policy is in effect, and small political parties without any Marxist ideology have been revived, if only for show.

Liberalization, as is to be expected, has been accompanied by a rising crime rate, alarmingly visible among juveniles and unemployed young people. Foreign students have been robbed quite often in Shanghai, and there are reports of a rash of terror bombings.

It may be that crimes are now being reported which previously were kept under wraps, but it is clear that the police are very busy and by no means in control of the situation in some places.

This is one of the prices a country pays for greater freedom, and so far the leaders show no sign of considering the price too high for without liberalization China can show little scientific, intellectual or economic progress.

David Bonavia

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THE FIFTH PROPRIETORSHIP

The Times has a new proprietor, Mr Rupert Murdoch. His is the fifth proprietorship in the history of the paper. By far the longest was the proprietorship of the founding family of John Walter which lasted for more than a century. That was followed by the proprietorship of Northcliffe, which was in its turn followed by that of the Astors and by the Thomson proprietorship which is now at an end. Each of these ownerships has made its own major contribution to the paper. The Walters, after John Walter I, a failed Lloyds underwriter, had seized the opportunity to provide an unsurpassed coverage of the French Revolution, created *The Times* as a great Victorian institution with a combination of Victorian efficiency, Victorian thoroughness and the Victorian conscience. The reputation and the character of the paper dated from their time and in particular from the long Editorship of Delane, from 1841 to 1877, the greatest of the Editors of *The Times*.

Period of stability

Northcliffe bought *The Times* after a period of decline. He infused it with his own demonic *energy and he completely* reorganized the commercial side. He was, however, always in conflict with the spirit of the paper which resisted the propaganda inherent in his method and the excited exaggeration and distortion which is inherent in all propaganda. In his last years, Northcliffe was not in his right mind and after the experience of Northcliffe the Astor proprietors provided an honourable stability.

The Astors were the least commercial of proprietors, not seeking to profit from the paper and simply wanting *The Times* to be conducted as a service to the nation. By 1966, commercial conditions had made it impossible for any private family to carry on a newspaper on this basis. At that time, Roy Thomson was the leading proprietor of Fleet Street. He aimed to protect the future of *The Times*, which he did not expect to be a profitable undertaking, by merging it with *The Sunday Times*, and like Northcliffe, by reorganizing its commercial management.

Roy Thomson was a business man of remarkable gifts. As a proprietor, he was extremely generous to *The Times*. He gave us consistent and strong support and exercised a shrewd and powerful commercial judgment. Although he was a great newspaper man and owned two hundred or more newspapers, he *understood newspapers from the* commercial and not from the editorial side. He was also an almost incredibly successful business man, making his final fortune in oil, worth several hundreds of millions of pounds, when he was in his eighties.

The death of Roy Thomson in 1976 marked the beginning of a period of crisis for the paper which has lasted to this day. There have been several strands to the crisis. Kenneth Thomson, the second Lord Thomson of Fleet, continued his father's policy of generosity and support for the paper, but had an attitude to the paper which was in some ways closer to that of the Astors than to his father's. His own main interests were, increasingly, in his home country of Canada, where he has greatly expanded the business interests of the Thomson family both in newspapers, such as *The Toronto Globe and Mail*, and in the very major acquisition of control of The Hudson Bay Company. His attitude towards *The Times* was that of the honourable trustee. He had a great sense of responsibility towards the paper, but as we lurched from crisis to crisis, all springing from bad industrial relations, the burden of the responsibility became heavier and heavier. In the last four years, neither owning nor managing *The Times* has been much joy to anyone, and it can have been no joy to him.

In 1976, it was already clear that *The Times*, with its massive setting requirement, needed to be brought on to the new electronic composing room equipment. This added to the stresses which already existed with the trade unions. *The Times* was substantially overmanned, as was *The Sunday Times*. Unless levels of manning could be reduced and the new technology brought in, the company would not operate at a profit and in most years was certain to make significant losses.

The relationship with the unions had become steadily worse and there were frequent disruptions of production, particularly *on The Sunday Times*. The attempt to negotiate a major set of reforms broke down in 1978 and was followed by nearly a year's suspension of both papers. Within a year of that suspension coming to an end, it had become apparent that so much damage had been done to the industrial relationships inside the business that it could not be put right under Thomson ownership; Kenneth Thomson's decision to sell the papers followed his recognition of that fact. It was a sad conclusion to a proprietorship to which *The Times* owes a great deal. It was a correct decision, but it was one made with great regret on both sides. The successful negotiations between Mr Murdoch and the unions have largely achieved what the Thomsons were not able to achieve between 1978 and 1980.

An act of courage

The first thing to be said about Mr Rupert Murdoch's ownership of *The Times* is that his decision to take on our problems was an act of considerable courage. He is now, as Roy Thomson was in 1967, the leading active proprietor in Fleet Street. There have been in this century, four men who have transformed Fleet Street by their ownership of newspapers. *The other* transformation, that achieved by the modern *Daily Mirror*, was the result not of individual ownership but of a combination of two or three remarkable men. The four most important proprietors have been Northcliffe, Beaverbrook, Roy Thomson and Rupert Murdoch and three of the four have become proprietors of *The Times*. It is a measure of the challenge which lies ahead of Mr Murdoch that neither Northcliffe nor Roy Thomson, though they both made a great contribution to the development and continuity of the paper, managed to solve its commercial problems. If Mr Murdoch does resolve those problems, he will have achieved something which has defied the masters of his craft.

Mr Murdoch stands somewhere between Northcliffe and Roy Thomson in newspaper ownership. Northcliffe was an editorial genius who created great wealth through his newspapers but left most of the business management to his brother, the first Lord Rothermere. Roy Thomson was a business man. The first thing he would do with a newspaper was to count the columns of advertising. He had a strong sense of the need for the editorial side to be responsible, and of course he wanted it to be attractive, but he did not regard himself as in any way expert in the editorial field. Nor did he attach much importance to his personal views of public affairs. Rupert Murdoch comes from a newspaper family and has always involved himself in the editorial character as well as the commercial efficiency of his papers. Yet he is also very much an international business man, fascinated by the problems and opportunities of managing and financing a worldwide group of companies. He is neither as much the pure editorial newspaper man as Northcliffe, nor as much the pure commercial newspaper man as Roy Thomson. He is, however, very obviously a man in love with newspapers, a newspaper professional but even more a *newspaper romantic*.

Assurances of independence

The assurances of editorial independence which Mr Murdoch has given are very far reaching and there is no reason to doubt he will abide by them. There is also no doubt that he will want to make a contribution to raising the level of *The Times* and *The Sunday Times* as newspapers. There is always an opportunity for that. The task of a daily newspaper is by definition impossible. It is necessary, three hundred times in a year, to produce a complete and accurate, yet stimulating and interesting account of the previous day's news, accompanied by serious comment and opinion and by other elements of information and entertainment. Inevitably, newspapers have periods when they are operating less than perfectly in one area or another, just as a day in which the newspaper has been charged with energy and effectiveness may be followed by a day in which the news is rather dull and the sails flap against the mast.

There can never be too much thought put into a newspaper nor can there ever be too much energy put into a newspaper. It is essential that a proprietor should leave the ultimate independence and integrity of a newspaper to the Editor. A proprietor should, and Mr Murdoch will, leave it to the judgment of the Editor of *The Times* at the next election, whether to support any or none of the parties that put themselves forward. Nevertheless *The Times* is likely to benefit, and not only commercially from having new energies thrown into it in what is always a struggle to achieve an unattainable standard. Certainly, the editorial staff look back with gratitude to the support the paper has had from the Thomson family as they still do to the Astors. They also look forward, with relief and eagerness, to the new proprietorship of Mr Murdoch, which they believe holds out great hope for the future of the paper.

Thetford treasure find

From Dr Jean Wilson

Sir, From your account today (February 4) of the inquest on the Thetford Roman treasure it is clear that the hoard was concealed in a bank for six months after it was found, in contravention of the legal requirement to report it. It also seems that the report was only made after knowledge of the treasure had emerged by accident, via the Council for British Archaeology.

In these circumstances, there would seem to be a strong case for the Government declining to make the usual *ex gratia* payment that is used to reward finders of treasure trove, or to *reduce it substantially*: as it is, important evidence on the circumstances of the treasure's deposition (which might, for example have indicated that it was a votive offering at the shrine of Faunus rather than buried in panic) was lost by the finder's illegal concealment.

Those who find archaeological material should be encouraged to report it promptly, and those who find possible treasure trove need to be reminded of their obligation to do so: withholding or reduction of the customary reward in the Thetford case would emphasize this.

Yours faithfully,
JEAN WILSON,
King's College,
Cambridge.
February 4.

Fish trade crisis

From Mr J. B. Green

Sir, Once again ill-considered and ill-informed statements from the leaders of Britain's fishermen have served to mislead the public as to the true situation in the industry. The present action by fishermen will do nothing to improve their long-term prospects and may well do considerable harm to all concerned.

If fishmongers were making the fortunes alleged by the fishermen the number of fish shops would be increasing in number rather than the reverse. Thirty years ago there was one retail group operating 450 fresh fish shops. The last of these closed late last year because of the very high overheads and poor returns.

For many years fishmongers have urged fishermen to agree to a national scheme to promote and advertise fish. To raise at least £2m for such a scheme would be easy and cost only a fraction of a penny per retail sale. The catching side of the industry has resisted all our efforts on the ground that they could sell all the available catch at a good price. The position is now very different and we can only hope some sort of cooperation will be *forthcoming before it is too late*.

An effective advertising programme would improve the demand for fish and would ensure a better return for all concerned. Banning imports of fish will only be a palliative and will never cure the ailment.

If imports were banned there would be many fish-processing plants which would be obliged to close. Most of them are geared up to a fixed production programme costed over a long period. British fishermen are not able to supply the right grade, quality and quantity required for a long production run.

The effect on retail sales of imported fish is very much exaggerated. Most fishmongers prefer to sell British fish if it compares favourably with the import. Unfortunately this is not always the case as most foreigners take considerable trouble to see their fish is well graded and guaranteed weight. The same cannot be said of much of the British fish.

Fishermen should give more thought to the ultimate consumer, for it is he or she who dictates the price the market will stand.

Yours faithfully,
JOHN GREEN,
J. B. Green (Crouch End) Ltd,
17 The Broadway,
Crouch End, N.8.
February 10.

Childbirth at home

From Dr S. J. Ware

Sir, I was surprised to read Dr Garrow's views (letter, February 2) supporting those who advocate more childbirth at home, and I would guess that he is in the minority among paediatricians.

The question of home deliveries is a vexed one, and most obstetricians and paediatricians are bound to hold views different from those of patients. If the chances of an unexpected disaster at home leading to a brain-damaged infant, which could have been prevented in hospital, are, say, one in several thousand, the risk from the individual mother's point of view is very small and may reasonably be disregarded by her.

To the paediatrician however, the one-in-several-thousand chance is an eventual certainty as he will have responsibility for thousands of newborn every year. The risk is hard to quantify, and will not be found among the available statistics, but most of us see such children in our clinics.

Clearly "humanisation" of the maternity hospital process, as suggested by Mrs Short's committee, is the best compromise. Even such a momentous event as the birth of a new baby inevitably loses its thrill for staff who deal with it 10 or 15 times a day: many units are understaffed which may make it harder to apply the important personal touch. Nevertheless most of us are taking active steps to try and make our maternity departments less like sausage machines.

Perinatal services, particularly paediatric cover, are not as comprehensive in some units as we would like them to be. But one has to balance the distress to the mother, separated from home and family at this most vulnerable time, often for a week or more in hospital, against the risk of preventable perinatal damage to the infant which, though rare, constitutes a life sentence for child and parents alike.

Yours sincerely,
STEPHEN WARE,
Basildon Hospital, Nethermayne,
Basildon, Essex.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Question of change in remand rule

From Lord Gardiner, CH

Sir, Ministers have been assuring us that the suspension of the eight-day remand rule has been working satisfactorily, but when asked for evidence of this have confessed that there is none. They do not know how often unrepresented people have been remanded in custody or to what extent defendants are now being held for longer periods than previously. Information on these matters must be made available before any permanent change in the law can be rationally discussed.

For the moment it seems that in accordance with their best traditions the Home Office are telling us all must be well because they know little to the contrary.

They are unlikely to hear from defendants held for weeks at a time in police cells, but Mr David Roberts's letter (February 5) now makes it clear how the Imprisonment (Temporary Provisions) Act is adversely affecting the situation and rights of the individual prisoner.

In 1972 the House of Lords debated (Hansard (HL) vol 335 no 133, cols 1372-1390) a proposal to allow represented defendants to be remanded in custody for three weeks at a time. I argued then that this would be very convenient to everyone concerned in the legal process—the courts, lawyers, and police, to everyone in fact except to the untried prisoner himself. For him, as the statistics clearly showed, the eight-day rule represented a real safeguard.

On a free vote the Lords overwhelmingly defeated the proposal to erode the eight-day rule, and the present (and then) Lord Chancellor was among those who voted to retain it. I do not think the arguments have changed since then.

Yours sincerely,
GARDINER,
President,
Howard League for Penal Reform,
169 Clapham Road, SW9.

Centre party views

From Mr N. P. Myles

Sir, Although I generally share your political viewpoint, your leading article today (February 10), "The sooner the better", prompts me to profound disagreement.

It is not a question of Mrs Williams, nor indeed of any personality. The tenor of your article suggests that a friendly, cautious if "sometimes muddled" approach represents the type of leadership which Britain wants. It may be what the British people think they would like, but it is not what they need.

The politics of compromise, of striving constantly for the common denominator, served well enough when the country's problems were relatively manageable. In the face of world recession, soaring oil prices and ever intensifying foreign competition it is manifestly not only inadequate but disastrous. How can the chronic problems at the heart of Britain's decline, the lack of competitiveness, inefficiency, restrictive practices and the like be overcome by "talking in a language of friendliness, of fair dealing, of balance"?

This is a world where millions of people starve for lack of resources, and fairness and indecision are not rewarded. Confrontation with wrongness is necessary, and if that be divisive its justification lies in the fact that the politics of compromise can only become effective or relevant when these great problems have been overcome.

Your policy, adopted by all British governments since the last war, laudable as it may be in appropriate circumstances, in the final outcome has failed the country. Perhaps we shall never do better, but at least somebody is now trying.

Yours faithfully,
N. P. MYLES,
Broadbent House,
64-65 Grosvenor Street, W1.

Stability in Grenada

From Mr David de Gale

Sir, Congratulations on Jeremy Taylor's objective and encouraging report on Grenada (February 6), drawing attention to its hard working left-wing government's brave attempt to search out a new social and economic balance for this remarkable as well as beautiful West Indian island.

Though the "anglophone prime ministers of neighbouring islands" may be ignoring Mr Bishop, there seems to be a degree of quiet support for him amongst the remaining old establishment "anglophones" in the island—something that could never have been said in the days of Sir Eric Gairy's government.

And it is relevant to record publicly that when, in February 1980, our family estate was peremptorily taken over by a village commune and renamed "The People's Collective Farm", government support was immediately forthcoming for the manager's protection and the estate was returned (eventually) to normal working.

It is by judicious, well-regulated behaviour that Mr Bishop—like Mr Mugabe—hopes to transform his small nation into a homogeneous structure of living communities.

His problem perhaps—as elsewhere amongst the ranks of those persuaded or forced to move far to the left to do this—will be to retain unbroken the native happiness, the zest for life, the individuality that one always associates with Grenadians. The neighbouring "anglophone" prime ministers can point to patent signs that Mr Bishop and the PRG (People's Revolutionary Government) are losing some ground here: but they are hardly helping him (or themselves) by their intransigent attitude.

If they showed even a degree of indifference, rather than hostility, Mr Bishop might in time be enabled to strike a balance between an extreme leftist and a more neutral alliance—a position, incidentally, that many believe would have been natural to him and the PRG, had they been better received and supported by the British and American governments at the outset.

Yours, etc.
DAVID de GALE,
Dernford Hall,
Saxmundham, Suffolk.

Dangers of British ambiguity on Ulster

From Mr B. S. D. Graham

Sir, Your editorial comment on the display by "Paisley's mounted foot" (February 7) correctly highlights the dangerous state of tension which now exists in Ulster as a result of the Prime Minister's refusal to elucidate what was agreed between herself and the Irish Prime Minister in the December summit meeting. Ian Paisley's political career has been built by exploiting such fears in the unionist population of the province. In view of the actions of previous British governments we have the right to be suspicious; how much more so when the Government is acting in collaboration with a man who came to power in his country on the back of the militant republicans in his party.

If political cooperation between British and Irish governments is going to lead to better security on our common land frontier it would be welcomed as much in Belfast as in London and Dublin. But we in Ulster are entitled to question the sincerity of the Dublin Government in implementing whatever new security agreements were made between our Prime Minister and Mr Lynch in September, 1979, and with Mr Haughey in December, 1980.

IRA terrorists still seem to escape with impunity into the Irish Republic; they still mount many of their operations from the Irish Republic; they still marshal their armaments in the Irish Republic; they still do their training in the Irish Republic; and at least 50 known terrorists are "hiding-out" in the Irish Republic.

Of course there have been a few well-publicized arms finds on the southern side of the border. But why is it so seldom that anyone is arrested in connexion with such finds? Is it the case that some of the finds have been old IRA stock, rather than anything being used in the current campaign? The only way in which the Irish Government can show their sincerity is to agree to the extradition of terrorists found within their jurisdiction. The extra-territorial court method which they proposed in 1975 has been shown to be totally useless, as was predicted at the time.

What, then, were the undertakings extracted from the Prime Minister in return for the spurious promises from the Irish Government? For instance, did she, in September, 1979, agree to the withdrawal of the SAS (Special Air Service Regiment) from the border areas in return for the Irish Government's agreement to a frontier air corridor? Whether or not this is so, speculation in Ulster along these lines will continue so long as the Prime Minister refuses to be more frank in her dealings with the House of Commons.

Fears abound in Northern Ireland that, the province is about to be betrayed. While those fears exist Ian Paisley will exploit them for his own ends. Most unionists would like to trust Mrs Thatcher for they admire her in so many other respects; they would like to trust the assurances of *The Times*, and other friends and defenders of the Union. But if there is nothing to hide, why the secrecy?

When Lord Hailsham was in opposition he told us about "elective dictatorship". The Lord Chancellor would do well to instruct the Prime Minister on what he meant before the next answers questions in the House on the Dublin summit.

Yours sincerely,
B. S. D. GRAHAM, Chairman,
Ulster Young Unionist Council,
3 Glengall Street,
Belfast.
February 9.

From Mr P. C. Thompson

Sir, Whatever are you at? "Preparations for insurrection . . . and menaces . . . directed against constitutional authority vitiate the basis of the union which they are invoked to protect" (leading article, February 7). But if it is the British Government itself which proves to be the enemy of those very principles of constitutionalism, respect for law and order, and the integrity of the kingdom upon which Unionism stands, then preparations for insurrection there must be, and menaces against constitutional authority there must be.

And that is not all: if it turns out that Mrs Thatcher's silence about her talks with Mr Haughey conceals for the moment that Mr Haughey's account of those talks is true, then insurrection there will indeed be.

It seems incredible that English politicians can still fail to understand that Ulstermen are simple and honest people: they have said so often that the English are bored, that there will not be a united Ireland, and, strangely enough, that is *exactly* what they mean. No discussions, no deals, no "institutional" adjustments: in short, No Surrender. Cannot the English at last understand these plain words? No arrangement with the South *at all* is acceptable, and if Mr Paisley is forced to set up a provisional government, as Carson did, to prove that he means what he says, then that is what will happen.

Yours etc,
P. C. THOMPSON,
16 Edgar Street,
Worcester.
February 7.

From Mr N. J. Mustoe

Sir, May I, as a loyal Englishman, disagree with R. N. Lines (letter, February 11), and say to Mr Ian Paisley that the surest way to get the support of those living on the mainland in keeping Ulster British is for him to show that Ulstermen are willing to fight for their rights.

If Ulstermen won't fight for themselves I am sure I won't. If they will fight, then they deserve all our support.

Yours faithfully,
N. J. MUSTOE,
The Gables,
Tiverton,
Tarporley,
Cheshire.
February 11.

Care for the environment

From Lord Craigton

Sir, Your report (February 4) on the publication of the European Communities Committee report, *EEC Environment Policy*, is very significant. As you say, the Brandt report and the world conservation strategy have in some countries begun to make people rethink the ways in which they relate to their environment. CoEnCo (Council for Environmental Conservation) strongly supports the suggestion that Europe should prepare a strategy for conserving its environmental resources.

The commission already has an impressive record of achievement in this field, but few people are aware of this. Two of the most welcome advances have been the recent ban on commercial imports of whale products and the Directive on the Conservation of Wild Birds, which comes into effect next month, and in which Stanley Cramp, CoEnCo's former vice-chairman, played such a significant part. At last the mass destruction of migratory birds is outlawed throughout Europe. Furthermore there is provision for the enhanced protection of habitats. This is of particular concern now that we are debating the relevant Bill and I was most encouraged by the terms of your leading article (February 2).

Looking to the immediate future, the commission should now consider a method whereby finance which would otherwise go towards producing unwanted surpluses could be diverted to compensate farmers and landowners for refraining from activities which would have a detrimental effect on wildlife, their habitats, or the landscape. One mechanism could be the early introduction of the proposed European Environment Fund. This would provide a counter-balance to the destructive elements of the common agricultural policy and could also help statutory agencies and voluntary bodies alike. As a nongovernmental organization, CoEnCo, and its many member bodies, would greatly welcome a new source of financial support for their already overstretched resources.

The assumption of the presidency of the Council of Ministers by Britain in July, 1981, will provide us with an opportunity to initiate work on a European strategy and to make further progress, through a third "action programme", in an area which has long been of importance to this country.

Yours faithfully,
CRAIGTON,
Council for Environmental Conservation,
Zoological Gardens,
Regent's Park, NW1.

The Church and divorce

From Bishop Mervyn Stockwood

Sir, Your Religious Correspondent, Mr Clifford Longley, in his article on the remarriage of divorced persons (February 6) writes "The rule forbidding the remarriage of divorced persons by the Church of England is unlikely to be successfully challenged in the foreseeable future". If Mr Longley is equating the word "rule" with "law" he is wrong. As the Church of England is the established Church it cannot make laws that are contrary to the law of the land.

The facts are:

1. A priest may marry a divorced person if his conscience so directs, providing that the conditions appertaining to all marriages are fulfilled. Although the Church has expressed the wish that a priest will not avail himself of his legal right, the decision is his, and his alone.

2. Although he is not required to do so, a priest may consult his bishop and he will doubtless treat episcopal advice with courteous consideration, but the bishop cannot insist. Why? Because the bishop can only demand obedience in "all things *lawful* and honest". It is not against the law to marry a divorced person.

3. The "conscience clause" that was put into the relevant Act of Parliament was for the benefit, not of those who wished to marry divorced persons, but of those who felt conscientiously unable to do so.

The most that the General Synod can do is to accept without criticism those priests who avail themselves of their legal rights. For instance I have married divorced people from time to time and may do so in the future, but I have regretted that my actions have not had the goodwill of the Church at the official level. Mr Longley suggests that the General Synod may seek a compromise by issuing a public service of blessing, to be held after the remarriage in a register office. May I say, in the kindest possible way, this strikes me as pharisaical humbug? If the remarriage of a divorced person is sinful and wrong, how can God be expected to bless the union? If it is not, then why should the Church frown on a marriage service in a church? And why should the Church of England take such a line when several of its sister churches in the Anglican Communion permit such remarriages in church? Does it pretend to a special revelation on moral issues?

Sir, I am not encouraging permissiveness. I am sure the Church should do everything possible to uphold the sanctity of family life. Perhaps it can best do this by having a fresh look at the main cause of family disruption. Perhaps unemployment and appalling housing conditions will be high on the list along with selfishness and the lack of self-discipline.

As I reflect on my years in the ministry, it seems that the Church of England gives to the country the impression of being sex-obsessed. On most sexual issues—eg, birth control, divorce, homosexuality—the country made up its mind years ago. What the Church says or does not say today is of small interest, and will make little or no difference.

Far better for the Church to concentrate and advise on matters that will encourage people, and families in particular, to live together in harmony as worthwhile and fulfilled citizens and sons of God.

Yours truly,
†MERVYN STOCKWOOD,
15 Sydney Buildings,
Bath,
Avon.
February 6.

Fading beauty of colour film

From the Editor of the National Photographic Record

Sir, The chairman of Technicolor Ltd (February 10) has drawn attention to the impermanency of colour inherent in certain cinematic film stock. It is not generally recognized, however, that the problem extends to most still colour transparencies also, since colour film stock normally incorporates organic dyes which are susceptible to fading over a period of years due to the action of light, and certain other factors.

There must be, in total, millions of prized colour slides taken by amateur photographers—holiday snaps and the like—which will inevitably fade over the years, much to the surprise and disappointment of their owners. More serious, however, is the potential loss of colour in colour photographic archives whose purpose is to preserve an accurate record of objets d'art, buildings, portraits, furniture, etc, for posterity.

This problem was highlighted at a Royal Photographic Society Symposium on "The conservation of colour photographic records", which was held at the Victoria and Albert Museum in September, 1973. It was then apparent that whilst certain precautions could be taken to minimize fading, the most effective measure is to convert a colour transparency into three constituent separation negatives, from which a facsimile of the original can readily be reconstituted with negligible loss of quality. The black and white separations are virtually "permanent" and cost together little more than the original colour film.

If they have not already done so, curators of colour photographic archives would be well advised to convert their existing stock to separation negatives as soon as possible. It is to be hoped that a national photographic archive will be speedily established and that it will address itself to this problem as one of its first priorities.

Yours sincerely,
JOHN WALL,
Kinganton,
46 The Meadows,
Sedgefield,
Stockton on Tees, Cleveland.
February 11.

Prince Philip's speech

From the Vice-Chancellor of Cambridge University and others

Sir, Your report (February 10) of the Mountbatten Memorial Lecture by his Royal Highness Prince Philip, given at the Cambridge Union on Monday night, may have misled some of your readers. This lecture was concerned with the life and achievements of Lord Mountbatten, not nuclear weapons.

The statement which you printed was in answer to a question from the floor after the lecture. Prince Philip added that he was in favour of multilateral nuclear disarmament, but this sentence did not appear in your report.

Yours truly,
PETER SWINNERTON-DYER,
ALAN COTTRELL,
J. H. PLUMB,
D. N. SENIOR,
St Catharine's College, Cambridge.

MEPs' spending

From Mr Teddy Taylor, MP for Southend East (Conservative)

Sir, Sir Fred Catherwood's letter today (February 10) on recent publicity about tours by members of the European Assembly does not deal with the aspect which causes greatest concern. It is certainly true that some have questioned the need for the substantial number of tours by Euro MPs, bearing in mind that the Strasbourg Assembly has no foreign affairs or defence function whatsoever and only a limited right to consultation on trade issues. But the real objection which has been voiced over the Euro tours relates to the cost and apparent extravagance of the ventures.

At a time when there is widespread unemployment and considerable hardship throughout Europe, there is surely an obligation on elected representatives who control their own budgets to exercise the maximum degree of prudence and economy.

Mrs Thatcher has set a splendid example in the case of our own Government and Parliament. The recent example of the traditional dinner at Downing Street before the Queen's Speech when the ministers were asked to pay themselves instead of adding to public expenditure may have only saved a few hundred pounds; but surely it is the right example at a time of hardship and restraint.

A select committee of British MPs was advised in November by one of our Treasury ministers that there is a gentleman's agreement whereby the Council of Ministers does not question the spending of the Euro Assembly. Surely this lack of external control places a special obligation on Sir Fred and his colleagues to exercise the degree of prudence which taxpayers are entitled to expect from a responsible body.

Yours sincerely,
TEDDY TAYLOR,
House of Commons.

Voice from the past

From Mr D. Cooper

Sir, RSM Brittain's powers of observation were not infallible. During the later stages of the Mons course we were allowed to use bicycles for moving around the camp, but as the military issue was insufficient some of us used our own.

One day I took a short cut, cycling past RSM Brittain's house, and then bumping the bicycle up and down some kerbstones. From behind his garden hedge the voice summoned me back and I was characteristically rebuked for mistreating military property.

Hesitatingly I explained that the bicycle was my own. This information had no visible effect. He paused but momentarily and then continued: "You were also damaging the kerbs"!

Yours etc,
DAVID COOPER,
38 West Street,
Harrow-on-the-Hill.
February 6.





COURT CIRCULAR

BUCKINGHAM PALACE
February 12: His Excellency Mr Ghazi Mohammad Amin Al-Rayes was received in audience by The Queen and presented the Letters of Recall of his predecessor and his own Letters of Credence as Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary from the State of Kuwait to the Court of St James's.

His Excellency was accompanied by the following Members of the Embassy who had the honour of being presented to Her Majesty: Mr Hamed M. Al-Saidan (Second Secretary), Mr Naser A. Behbehani (Attaché), Mr Khalid A. Al-Khashti (Attaché), Mr Ibrahim A. Al-Muhanna (Counsellor), Mr Ali Al-Mumin (Attaché), Mr Ali S. Al-Adzani (Attaché), Mr Saleh M. Al-Madhekah (Attaché) and Mr *Abdul Razaq Al-Salah (Attaché)*.

Madame Al-Rayes had the honour of being received by The Queen.

Sir John Graham (Deputy Under-Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs) who had the honour of being received by Her Majesty was present, and the Gentlemen of the Household in Waiting were in attendance.

His Excellency Mr Rashid Mohammed Al-Khater was received in farewell audience by The Queen and took leave upon His Excellency relinquishing his appointment as Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary from the State of Qatar to the Court of St James's.

The Right Hon Francis Pym, MP (Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster) had an audience of Her Majesty.

The Queen gave a Reception this evening for winners of The Queen's Awards for Export and Technology in 1980 at which The Prince of Wales and The Duke of Gloucester were present.

The Duke of Edinburgh attended the Funeral of Queen Frederika of The Hellenes which was held at Tatoi, near Athens, today.

His Royal Highness travelled in an aircraft of The Queen's Flight.

The Prince of Wales this morning attended a briefing for Field Marshals at the Ministry of Defence.

Major John Winter was in attendance.

The Princess Anne, Mrs Mark Phillips, Colonel-in-Chief, Royal Corps of Signals, this afternoon at Buckingham Palace received Major-General A. J. Jackson (Representative Colonel Commandant, Royal Corps of Signals, for 1981).

Her Royal Highness this evening attended the world première of the film *Little Lord Fauntleroy*, in aid of the British Red Cross *Society and* The Princess Anne's Charities, at the Classic Cinema, Haymarket.

Mrs Malcolm Innes was in attendance.

CLARENCE HOUSE
February 12: Queen Elizabeth The Queen Mother this morning received Sir Henry McDowell (Chancellor of the University of Zimbabwe), Mr J. D. Cameron (Chairman of the Council) and Professor J. Lewis (Principal and Vice-Chancellor).

Subsequently the Chancellor conferred on Her Majesty the Degree of Doctor of Laws, honoris causa.

Queen Elizabeth The Queen Mother was present this evening at a Reception given by the Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons at St James's Palace.

The Lady Elizabeth Bassett and Captain Alastair Aird were in attendance.

KENSINGTON PALACE
February 12: The Princess Margaret, Countess of Snowdon, President of the Girl Guides Association, was present this afternoon at a *Service held in Westminster* Abbey for the Dedication of a Memorial to Robert, Lord Baden-Powell, Chief Scout of the World, and Olave, Lady Baden-Powell, World Chief Guide.

The Lady Juliet Townsend was in attendance.

KENSINGTON PALACE
February 12: The Duchess of Gloucester was present this evening at a Benefit Performance of *Holiday on Ice* given for the London Union of Youth Clubs at Wembely Arena.

The Hon Mrs Munro was in attendance.

THATCHED HOUSE LODGE
February 12: Princess Alexandra and the Hon Angus Ogilvy this evening received the Prime Minister of Mauritius and Lady Ramgoolam.

The Duke of Edinburgh, as an honorary member of the Smeatonian Society of Civil Engineers, will lunch with members of the society at the Institution of Civil Engineers, 1-7 Great George Street, on February 25.

Birthdays today

Lieutenant-General Sir Roger Bower, 78; Earl Cadogan, 67; Professor Dame Helen Gardner, 73; Colonel Sir Douglas Glover, 73; Sir Neville Pearson, 83; Mr John Peyton, MP, 62; Mr Francis Pym, MP, 59; M Georges Simenon, 78; Professor Lord Stamp, 74.

Today's engagements

The Queen opens two-millionth house built under National House-Building Council scheme, Buckingham Road, Hampton, Middlesex, 2.45.

The Duke of Edinburgh, as Chancellor of Salford University, visits university and attends annual court meeting, 10.

Lectures: Women on television: out of focus? Helen Baehr, New Gallery, Regent Street, 12.30; Celebes: the first Surrealist painting? Gabrielle Keiller, Tate Gallery, 1; Niccolo dell'Abate: the story of Aristaeus, Audrey Tyndall, National Gallery, 1; Classical terracottas: technique and purpose, Patsy Vanags, British Museum 11.30; Land of milk and honey, David Williams, British Museum, 1.15.

Crufts Dog Show, Earls Court, 10.

Memorial concert

A concert in memory of Viscount Chandos will be given by Dame Janet Baker, Raymond Leppard, Trevor Pinnock and a section of the English Chamber Orchestra at 7.30 on Tuesday, May 12, at Holy Trinity Church, Sloane Street, SW1. Proceeds will go to charities for kidney patients. Inquiries should be made to Box 866, London W12 7BU.



Bravery recognized: Aircraftman Roger Clarkson, aged 18, the youngest of a group of airmen who received awards yesterday at RAF Uxbridge, where they saved dozens of their colleagues from a potentially huge bomb explosion.

Forthcoming marriages

Mr S. Featherstone and Miss G. T. Salisbury
The engagement is announced between Simon, youngest son of Mr and Mrs David Featherstone, of Haling Park, south Croydon, and Gail, daughter of Mr and Mrs Dennis Salisbury, of Worle, Avon.

Mr B. Lee and Miss J. Macpherson of Cluny
The engagement is announced between Bruce Lee, of New York, and Janetta, youngest daughter of the late Cameron Macpherson of Cluny and of Mrs Cameron Macpherson of Cluny, Barns House, South Cadbury, Yeovil, Somerset.

Dr T. M. Loosemore and Miss A. Owens
The engagement is announced between Thomas Mark, only son of the late Mr Gordon Loosemore, MChir, FRCS, and Mrs Mary Loosemore, of Watford, Hertfordshire, and Alison, younger daughter of Mr and Mrs F. E. Owens, of Kingston, Surrey.

Mr P. J. McCann and Dr M. A. McKeague
The engagement is announced between Peter, eldest son of Mrs A. C. McCann of Grosvenor Mews, Lymington, Hampshire, and the late Mr J. A. McCann, FRCS, of Sefton Park, Liverpool, and Margaret Ann, eldest daughter of Mrs M. McKeague, of Maghera, co Derry, and the late Mr J. McKeague.

Mr N. Richmond and Miss S. J. Wilson
The engagement is announced between Nigel, only son of Mr M. Richmond, of Waterloo Road, Birkdale, and Sally-Jo, only daughter of Mr and Mrs R. W. Wilson, of Granton Close, Formby.

Marriages

Mr R. A. Stormonth-Darling and Mrs C. M. Brooke
The marriage took place in London yesterday between Mr Robin Stormonth-Darling and Mrs Carola Brooke, daughter of Sir Robert and Lady Erskine-Hill.

Mr S. G. Beaumont and Mrs M. G. Douglas
The marriage has taken place of Mr Stephen Beaumont, of Wakefield, and Mrs Marjorie Gordon Douglas, late of Shalbourne and Hexham.

Mr M. Vaughan-Lee and Mrs C. Bateman
The marriage took place quietly on February 12 between Mr Mark Vaughan-Lee and Mrs Caroline Bateman.

Photograph by Bill Warhurst

Royal painting: The new portrait of the Prince of Wales by Bryan Organ (right) after its unveiling yesterday by Professor Lawrence Gowing, head of the Slade School (left). It went on show to the public at the National Portrait Gallery in London.

Luncheon

Commonwealth Parliamentary Association
Sir Nigel Fisher, deputy chairman of the United Kingdom branch of the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association, and Mr Ernest Armstrong, MP, were hosts at a luncheon given by the executive committee at the House of Commons yesterday in honour of the Prime Minister of Mauritius, Sir Seewoosagur Ramgoolam, and Lady Ramgoolam. Others present included:
The High Commissioner for Mauritius and Lady Teelock, Sir Veerasamy and Lady Ringadoo, Sir Harold and Lady Walter and Lady Fisher.

Dinners

Prime Minister
The Prime Minister and Mr Denis Thatcher were hosts at a dinner held at 10 Downing Street yesterday in honour of the Prime Minister of Mauritius and Lady Ramgoolam. The other guests were:
Sir Veerasamy and Lady Ringadoo, Sir Harold and Lady Walter, the High Commissioner for Mauritius and Lady Teelock, Mr B. Ghoorah, Mr U. Gopaul, Dr and Mrs Navin Ramgoolam, Miss Sunita Ramgoolam; Sir Ian Gilmour, MP, and Lady Caroline Gilmour, Mr Richard Luce, MP, and Mrs Luce, Mrs Lynda Chalker, MP, Earl and Countess Jellicoe, Viscount and Viscountess Boyd of Merton, Lord and Lady Greenwood of Rosendale, Mr Denis Healey, MP, Mr Roy Mason, MP, and Mrs Mason, Sir James and Lady Lighthill, Sir Nigel Fisher, MP, and Lady Fisher, Sir Austin and Lady Fisher, Sir Austin and Lady Pearce, Sir John and Lady Rennie.
Mr and Mrs Robert Atkinson, Mr and Mrs John Thompson, Mr and Mrs James Porter, Mr and Mrs K. D. Brough, Mr Donald Chesworth, Mr John Selwyn Gummer, MP, and Mrs Selwyn Gummer, Mr Patrick Wall, MP, and Mrs Wall, Mr Antony Buck, MP, and Mrs Buck, Mr Robert Maclennan, MP, and Mrs Maclennan, Mr Patrick Cormack, MP, and Mrs Cormack, Mr Keith Best, MP, Sir Leonard and Lady Allinson, Mr and Mrs James Allan, Mr Michael Alexander and Mr and Mrs Derek Howe.

HM Government
The Earl of Mansfield and Mansfield, Minister of State, Scottish Office, and the Countess of Mansfield, entertained at dinner at Edinburgh Castle last night a delegation from the National People's Congress of China, on the occasion of their visit to Scotland.

GLC
The chairman of the GLC and Mrs Brook-Partridge entertained the following at dinner after attending a concert at the Festival Hall, yesterday:
The Canadian High Commissioner, Sir Roger Falk, Mr and the Hon Mrs Francis Bennett and Mr and Mrs Roy Williams.

Bakers' Company
Sir Charles Taylor, Master of the Bakers' Company, presided, assisted by the wardens, at a court dinner held at Buck's Club yesterday.

Hunterian Society
The Hunterian Society held their annual dinner at the Savoy Hotel yesterday. Dr David Morris, president, was in the chair and the principal guests included the Lord Chief Justice, and Mrs C. Ewart Biggs.

Tallow Chandlers' Company
The Tallow Chandlers' Company held a livery dinner at their hall last night at which the Master, Mr N. H. M. Anderson, presided. Other speakers included Lord Lloyd of Kilgerran, Sir Kenneth Holland and the Prime Warden of the Dyers' Company. Among other guests present were:
Lord Drumalbyn, Major General J. H. Page, Brigadier J. J. H. Simpson, Mr Deputy H. W. S. Horlock and the Master of the Master Mariners' Company.

Society of Investment Analysts
The Society of Investment Analysts held their twenty-fifth annual dinner last night at the Hilton hotel. The guest of honour was Mr A. R. N. Ratcliff, President of the Institute of Actuaries. The chairman of the society, Mr D. C. Damant, presided.

Receptions

Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons
Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother was present at a reception in St James's Palace, given by the president and officers of the Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons, yesterday evening to commemorate the centenary of the first Veterinary Surgeons Act, 1881. Among other guests present were:
Viscount Leverhulme, Sir Hugh Fraser, Sir Brian and Lady Hayes, Sir Mark and Lady Tennant, Mr Harry Greenway, MP, and Mrs Greenway, Mr Marcus Kimball, MP, and Mrs Kimball and Mr Michael Mates, MP.

Chicago University
Sir Robert Shone, president of the Chicago Alumni Association, London, *was host at a reception held* at London House yesterday evening. Professor William McNeill, of Chicago, the George Eastman visiting professor at Oxford University, and Mrs McNeill were the principal guests.

Association of Accounting Technicians
Mr M. G. Lickiss, president of the Association of Accounting Technicians, and the council gave an inaugural reception at the headquarters of the association, Jockey's Fields, yesterday evening. Those present included presidents and secretaries of London-based accounting bodies.

James Joyce on record fetches £300

By Geraldine Norman
Sale Room Correspondent

A literary curiosity came up for sale in Somerset yesterday, an early His Masters Voice record of James Joyce reading his work *Anna Livia Plurabelle* (later included in *Finnegan's Wake*). Joyce was very shortsighted and the 10 specially prepared cards with the text written out in large lettering were sold with the record.

Joyce attempted to read the cards in a dimly lit recording studio at the Orthological Institute but required the extra help of a whispering prompter.

The record, in good condition, and the cards sold for £300 (estimate £200-£400). The lot was among the papers of C. K. Ogden, the distinguished Cambridge don, sold on behalf of the Orthological Institute. The book and manuscript sale, at Lawrence's of Crewkerne, made £33,066, with 4 per cent unsold.

Sotheby's book sale in Monaco on Wednesday evening had a similar result, totalling £114,098, with 4 per cent unsold. Blaeu's atlas of Italy, published in four volumes in 1704-05 brought the top price at 87,000 francs (estimate 30,000-50,000 francs) or £7,552.

In London yesterday Sotheby's sold gold boxes and *European* and South American silver for a total of £193,730, with 13 per cent unsold.

University news

Cardiff colleges may merge

University College and the University of Wales Institute of Science and Technology, both in Cardiff, are to consider merging.

Dr A. F. Trotman-Dickenson, Principal of UWIST, and Dr C. W. L. Bevan, the Principal of University College, have agreed "that UCC should examine whether it wished to issue an invitation to the council of UWIST to operate as a single university institution".

Oxford
Professor D. F. Hendry, MA (Abrdn), MSc, PhD (London), Professor of Econometrics, London School of Economics and Political Science has been appointed professor of economics

Awards
Eldon Law scholarship: S. A. Aitchison, Worcester, and R. C. Thomas, St Johns'.

Elections
SOMERVILLE COLLEGE: Miss L. S. Dawson, of Hills Road Sixth Form College, Cambridge, Isabel Llewelyn Rhys exhibition in ancient and modern history.

Minister rejects advice on export of Codex

By Kenneth Gosling
Arts Reporter

Because there is little likelihood that any public collection will launch an appeal to keep the Leonardo manuscript known as the Leicester Codex in this country, Mr Paul Channon, Minister for the Arts, has decided that the export licence will be withheld for only one month.

In doing so he has taken the rare step of overturning a recommendation by the Reviewing Committee on the Export of Works of Art, which recommended last month that as the Codex was an item of national importance its licence should be suspended for three months. The manuscript was bought at Christie's last December by Dr Armand Hammer for £2.4m. It was sent for sale by the trustees of the Holkham Estate.

A statement yesterday by the Office of Arts and Libraries said Mr Channon had taken into account information available to him and the result of particular inquiries made both before and after the sale about the prospects of a public collection seeking to acquire the Codex.

The Codex goes on display at the Royal Academy in London in July after being remounted at Windsor Castle.

25 years ago

From The Times of Monday, Feb 13, 1956

Burgess, Maclean on show

From Our Special Correspondent

Moscow, Feb 12.—The missing former British diplomatists, Guy Burgess and Donald Maclean, showed themselves briefly on Saturday to several Soviet and British journalists, thus confirming reports that they went to Moscow when they disappeared from Whitehall. There is substantial reason to believe that it was decided to produce the two men at this time in anticipation of the visit to England by Marshal Bulganin and Mr Khrushchev, which is tentatively fixed for April. It was learned on good authority that the Soviet leaders had been advised that their sincerity might be doubted in Britain so long as Russia continued to insist that nothing was known about the missing pair.

Latest wills

Miss Dulcie Christine Moorhouse, of Helston, Cornwall, left estate valued at £160,203 net. After personal bequests she left the residue between the RSPCA, RSPB and Christain Aid.

Other estates include (net, before tax paid):
Brodie, Mr Leslie James, of Chipping Campden, Gloucester .. £241,242
Chambers, Mr Hector James, of East Bergholt, Essex .. £234,482
Gray, Mr Charles, of Holland-on-Sea, Essex holiday camp proprietor £460,102

Two medals for mine rescue

Two tin mine officials who helped to rescue two miners buried alive after a rock fall last year are to receive the Queen's Gallantry Medal. They are Mr Stephen Ainsworth, aged 30, shift boss, and Mr Alan Brewer, aged 48, mine captain, of Geevor Tin Mines, at Pendeen, Cornwall.

Medals are also awarded for gallantry in Northern Ireland to two constables of the Royal Ulster Constabulary, Mr William Brown (posthumous) and Mr William White.

Science report

Ecology: Ants defend nectar supply

By the Staff of *Nature*

A remarkable relationship has evolved between a herb, the tropical ginger (*Costus woodsonii*), and two species of ant. In exchange for nectar specially secreted from outside the flowers, the ants protect the plant from the depradations of fly larvae. One species, the larger of the two, chases away flies whenever they attempt to land on the plant to lay eggs and the smaller species searches the plant and eats any ant fly larvae that it finds. Without interference from the ants the larvae will eat the seeds and fruit and can completely prevent the plant from reproducing.

That conclusion was reached from a series of experiments carried out in Panama by Dr D. W. Schemske, of the University of Chicago. Although a number of plant species are thought to be protected by ants this is the first time that it has been possible to quantify the advantages of the relationship.

The tropical ginger grows to one or two metres tall and is found along the sand beaches of the Atlantic Coast from Costa Rica to Columbia. In his experimental area Dr Schemske ringed the stems of some of the plants with insect repellant to stop ants visiting them. He then compared the damage done by the fly (a species of *Euxesta*) to plants with and without the protection of ants. During a period of one year the plants protected by ants produced three times as many seeds as unprotected plants.

The two species of ants are most common at different times of the year, the larger species (*Camponotus planatus*) is dominant in the dry season from January to May, and the smaller species (*Wassmania auropunctata*) in the wet season during the remainder of the year. *Wassmania* seems to be much superior in defending the plant, for during the wet season the difference in seed production between defended and undefended plants is very much greater than in the dry season. The effect of ant protection may be further magnified by the preferences of the birds which disperse the seeds. They are attracted to the seeds by the oily arils which surround them, and if the arils are partly damaged by larvae, even if the seed is intact, the birds will not carry them away.

Several observations suggest that the plant and the small defenders may have evolved together. Although the small ants did not actively chase flies away, eggs were rarely laid on plants that they occupied (in the wet season eggs were laid 17 times as often on ant-free plants than on ant-protected plants) suggesting that the fly has developed a specific avoidance reaction to plants occupied by *Wassmania*.

The nectar on which the ants feed is secreted on the bracts below the flower and its production seems to have been designed to attract the small ants which provide the "best" protection. The nectar is very concentrated (30 per cent to 50 per cent sugar) and is rich in amino acids but, because it is secreted at a low rate, it is much more attractive to the smaller species than to the larger. Other species of *Costus* produce larger nectar flows and attract ants with larger workers.

Despite the obvious benefits of ant protection to *Costus woodsonii*, an important question remains: what, in general, are the costs and benefits of ant protection compared with chemical protection (production of toxic substances in the plant tissues) or protection by special structures (spines, for example)? As herbivores can often evolve detoxification systems which "crack" chemical defences and as changes in behaviour can circumvent structural defences, ant defenders may perhaps provide a particularly stable defence system. Only a comparative study of many different species will provide a full answer.

Source: *Journal of Ecology* (vol 68, page 959) 1981.

OBITUARY

ADMIRAL OF THE FLEET LORD FRASER OF NORTH CAPE

Outstanding contribution to the naval war effort

Admiral of the Fleet Lord Fraser of North Cape, GCB, KBE, who died yesterday at the age of 93, had a highly distinguished career, afloat and on shore, during and after the last war.

In March 1939 he was recalled from the Mediterranean Fleet, where he had been serving as Chief of Staff to Admiral Sir Dudley Pound, the Commander-in-Chief, to take over the office of Third Sea Lord and Controller, with responsibility for all the material of the Navy, which had unexpectedly fallen vacant through the illness of Admiral Sir Reginald Henderson. Fraser took over that exacting post at a very difficult time, when war was plainly approaching and the service was suffering from the consequences of the long period of financial stringency. True, *large building programmes had* been approved in 1937 and 1938: but hardly any of those ships had been commissioned when war broke out in September 1939.

Fraser not only held the chief responsibility for expediting the prewar programmes, but he had to initiate the enormous War Emergency Programmes which quickly followed. This taxed the shipbuilding and engineering industries to the limit, and acute shortages quickly became apparent in every direction. Fraser's calmness and good humour did much to surmount the recurrent crises which arose. He not only maintained excellent relations with the shipbuilders, engineers and scientists who were struggling to meet the Navy's needs, but quickly won the confidence of the First Lord, Winston Churchill.

In June 1942 Fraser, now a Vice-Admiral, returned to sea in command of the Second *Battle Squadron of the Home* Fleet, and as second-in-command to Admiral Sir John Tovey. Just under a year later he succeeded Tovey as Commander-in-Chief, and it was in that capacity that he conducted the operations in the twilight of an Arctic midwinter day which ended in the sinking of the German battleship Scharnhorst on December 26, 1943. Fraser's flagship, the battleship Duke of York, played the leading part in that battle.

On the resignation of the First Sea Lord, Admiral Sir Dudley Pound, due to ill health in October 1943 Churchill first offered the post to Admiral Fraser. He however replied that although he believed he had the confidence of his own fleet Admiral Sir Andrew Cunningham "has that of the whole Navy". Churchill has commented that Fraser's "attitude was most becoming", and Cunningham accordingly became First Sea Lord.

In August 1944 Fraser took over command of the Eastern Fleet from Admiral Sir James Somerville, and at once began to implement the government's plan to send most of the Royal Navy to join hands with the Americans in the Pacific for the final phase of the war against Japan. In November 1944 he hoisted his flag as Commander-in-Chief, British Pacific Fleet, and at once established excellent relations with Admiral Chester Nimitz, USN, the C-in-C Pacific. The problems involved in operating a large fleet in the north-west Pacific, when its main base was many thousands of miles away at Sydney, were difficult in the extreme. But Fraser and his subordinates overcame them successfully, with some help from the Americans, and in March 1945 a report was made to Nimitz that the fleet was ready for return.

Fraser found it essential to fly his flag ashore in Australia during the ensuing operations *for the capture of Okinawa and* against the Japanese mainland; but he signed the formal instrument of surrender by Japan on behalf of the British government in Tokyo Bay on September 2, 1945. In the final phase of his command in the Pacific his fleet devoted its whole energies to the rescue and recuperation of Allied prisoners-of-war, and to carrying food and medical supplies to the starving people of that vast theatre.

In May 1947 Fraser hoisted his flag as Commander-in-Chief, Portsmouth, but fifteen months later the office of First Sea Lord fell vacant through the retirement of Admiral Sir John Cunningham. This time Fraser had no scruples about accepting the highest post his service had to offer, and he remained in it until his retirement in 1952. He thus played as large a part in the transition of the Navy into its postwar shape as he had played in its vast expansion between 1939 and 1942.

Bruce Austin Fraser was born at Acton on February 5, 1888. He joined the training ship Britannia in 1902, and went to sea as a midshipman two years later. After serving in the battleship Prince George 1905-7 he was promoted *sub-lieutenant*, and in the subsequent courses for the rank of lieutenant he gained first-class certificates in all six subjects. In March 1908 he was promoted lieutenant, and served in that rank in the cruisers Lancaster in the Mediterranean and Boadicea at home. In 1911 he joined the gunnery school Excellent at Portsmouth to qualify as specialist, and won the Commander Egerton prize for the best results in his course. He went next to the RN College, Greenwich to undertake advanced studies in the same subject.

In August 1914 Fraser joined the cruiser Minerva on the mobilization of the Navy, and remained in her for nearly two years as gunnery officer. In 1916 he was appointed in the same capacity to the new battleship Resolution, and it was while serving in her that he was promoted Commander on June 30, 1919 at the very early age of 31. In the same year he was awarded an OBE (Military) for his services while in the Resolution. Fraser next joined the naval expedition sent to the Caspian Sea during the War of Intervention in Russia of 1919-20, but was captured by the Bolsheviks and imprisoned. This experience caused some apprehension among his staff when in 1943 he visited Murmansk as Commander-in-Chief, Home Fleet. But the local Russian authorities knew all about it, and apparently enjoyed entertaining their erstwhile prisoner. In November 1920 Fraser was released under an arrangement for exchange of prisoners and returned home by a roundabout route.

Fraser's next appointment was to the Naval Ordnance Department of the Admiralty from 1922-4, during which he earned the commendation of the Board of Admiralty for his work on the new fire control installations then being designed. At the end of 1924 he returned to the Mediterraean as Fleet Gunnery Officer in the flagships Queen Elizabeth and Warspite.

In June 1926 he was promoted Captain, and then took the senior officers' technical course. In the following year he was appointed head of the Tactical Section of the Naval Staff. His next appointment was to command the cruiser Effingham flagship of the East Indie[s] Station, then commanded by Vice-Admiral B. S. Thesiger. After nearly three years (1929-32) in the East Indies h[e] returned to the Naval Ordnance Department as its Director from 1933-36.

In March 1936 he left Whitehall to take command of th[e] aircraft carrier Glorious. In tha[t] appointment he served also a[s] Chief Staff Officer to Rear Admiral B. Rawlings, the A[d]miral Commanding Aircra[ft] Carriers. This was the tim[e] when naval aviation was makin[g] timely if tardy strides in th[e] Royal Navy, and the appoin[t]ment of an outstanding office[r] like Fraser to command th[e] newest ship of her class was a[n] indication of the importanc[e] attached to the new arm. O[n] January 1, 1938 Fraser was pr[o]moted Rear-Admiral, just b[e]fore his 50th birthday, and i[n] the following April he joine[d] the Mediterranean fleet fla[g]ship, the Warspite, as Chief [of] Staff to Admiral Sir Dudle[y] Pound. Between them the[y] made the Mediterranean fle[et] into the splendid fighting i[n]strument which Admiral S[ir] Andrew Cunningham was [to] wield so effectively from 193[9-]42.

The illness and untime[ly] death of the First Sea Lord, A[d]miral Sir Roger Backhous[e] caused the recall of Admir[al] Pound from the Mediterrane[an] shortly before the outbreak [of] war in 1939, and at about th[e] same time Admiral Fraser w[as] brought home to take over th[e] office of Controller and Thi[rd] Sea Lord. This double, an[d] quite unexpected, change in tw[o] of the highest offices of th[e] Admiralty came at a most u[n]fortunate moment: but the[re] can be no question that Fras[er] was an outstandingly successf[ul] Controller. In May 1940 he w[as] promoted Vice-Admiral, and the following year he was ma[de] K.B.E. His term as second-i[n-]command, Home Fleet, durin[g] which he flew his flag [in] cruisers, an aircraft carrier a[nd] a battleship from June 1942 [to] May 1943, was an invaluab[le] introduction to the rigorous a[nd] difficulties involved in condu[ct]ing prolonged operations in th[e] far north; for the passage [of] the supply convoys to Mu[r]mansk and Archangel was th[e] the heaviest responsibili[ty] placed on the Home Fleet. Th[e] experience served Fraser ve[ry] well when, after he had beco[me] Commander-in-Chief in M[ay] 1943, he had to plan and co[n]duct the complicated operati[ons] of covering large homewa[rd] and outward convoys at a tim[e] when attack by the Scharnhors[t] and other German warship[s] stationed in Altenfiord in nort[h] Norway was expected hourly.

Fraser, unlike some Britis[h] senior officers, established e[x]cellent relations with the Ru[s]sians at Murmansk; and the[ir] own accounts of his visits sho[w] that his frank and friend[ly] manner entirely won the[ir] hearts. He was equally succe[ss]ful in his dealings with t[he] United States Navy after he h[ad] taken command of the Briti[sh] Pacific Fleet in November 19[44]. He was made KCB in June 19[43] and GCB for the sinking of t[he] Scharnhorst. In the 1946 N[ew] Year Honours a Barony was co[n]ferred on him and he took [his] title from the remote promo[n]tory in north Norway off whi[ch] he had fought and sunk t[he] Scharnhorst three years earli[er].

In addition to his Briti[sh] honours the governments of t[he] United States, USSR, Norw[ay] and Holland all bestowed hi[gh] decorations on Fraser. Honora[ry] degrees were conferred on h[im] by the universities of Oxfo[rd], Edinburgh and Wales.

Fraser was unmarried.

PROFESSOR G. M. EDINGTON

Professor George Miller Edington died on January 25 at University College Hospital, London, after a long illness borne with characteristic fortitude.

After a brilliant educational career in Glasgow, where he was born on April 18, 1916, he joined the Royal Army Medical Corps in 1941 and was posted to the Royal West African Frontier force in Bengal and later in the Arakan. This aroused an interest in tropical medicine which was to dominate the rest of his life.

After demobilisatoin he decided to go to West Africa; his first posting was to Takoradi hospital where he was a successful and popular clinician. He took the DTM and H in the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine in the winter of 1948-9. On his return to West Africa he gave up a lucrative career as a clinician to become pathologist at the Medical Research Institute in Accra. His work there was the beginning of his research career in West Africa. He was appointed director of the institute and soon showed his abilities for calm and fair administration which was later so much appreciated in Nigeria.

He was responsible, together with Dr M. H. Hughes, for raising the Institute for Medical Research from a laboratory carrying out routine tests to a centre of active research into many aspects of medical problems in West Africa. His main field of interest was the abnormal haemoglobins with particular emphasis on sickle cell disease, but he gained a wide experience of general pathology in West Africa which was to be the foundation of much of his later work. On the practical side he did much to develop blood transfusion in Ghana and was made a life member of the British Red Cross. When he left Ghana in 1956 he had the satisfaction of knowing that the Institute for Medical Research in Accra had regained the international reputation that it had enjoyed in the days of Young and Noguchi.

After only a few months in England, he accepted an invitation to the Chair of Pathology at the University of Ibadan. This was the most productive period of his life. He built up a department of pathology acknowledged to be one of the best in Africa; he carefully nurtured the careers of several Nigerian pathologists to whom he was able to hand over a flourishing department. In collaboration with Professor H. M. Gilles, he wrote *Pathology in the Tropics* which has become the standard textbook on the subject. In addition, he followed many research interests producing innumerable scientific papers in the fields of the abnormal haemoglobin, malaria, schistosomiasis, heart disease, renal disease, liver disease, and cancer in which he was an acknowledged world [ex]pert.

In addition to the adminis[tra]tion of his department, he [was] subsequently appointed De[an,] Deputy Vice Chancellor a[nd] Acting Vice Chancellor. In th[at] capacity his innate fairness, a[nd] his calmness in difficult sit[ua]tions enabled him to play [an] outstanding part in the devel[op]ment of medical education [in] Nigeria. He was appointed C[BE] in 1969 and was awarded [an] Honorary DSc by the Univers[ity] of Ibadan for his outstandi[ng] services to the University.

Instead of returning to [the] routine jobs in the United Ki[ng]dom, he once again humb[ly] accepted the challenge to bu[ild] up a department of pathology [at] the recently establish[ed] Ahmadu Bello University [in] Zaria. Having achieved this, [he] moved on to his final assi[gn]ment in Maiduguri where [he] founded the College of Medi[cal] Sciences. His commitment [to] Maiduguri was characteri[stic] and absolute and he lived lo[ng] enough to see that clini[cal] teaching had started in t[he] nascent medical school.

In addition to his work [in] Nigeria, he was in great dema[nd] as a consultant or chairman [at] meetings all over the world, p[ar]ticularly in America and for [the] World Health Organization, a[nd] wrote chapters in many te[xt]books.

He married, in 1949, Mi[ss] Jane, daughter of William Ha[m]ilton; she was an insepara[ble] companion in all that he did.

Major-General Henry Robinson Swinburn, CB, OBE, MC, who died on January 27 at the age of 83, was Military Secretary, GHQ, India, 1946-47 and Counsellor, UK High Commission, Indian, 1948-49.

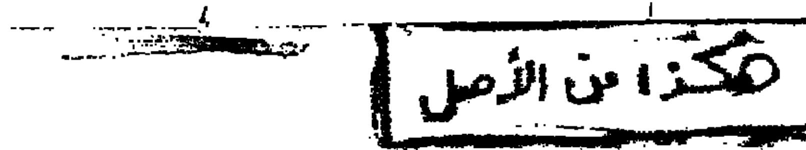
Mr Bill Simpson, MBE, Vice chairman of Oxfordshire County Council and a former Lord Mayor of Oxford, died on January 22, aged 61.

Lady Wolfson, wife of Sir Isaac Wolfson, Bt, died on January 7. She was Edith, daughter of Ralph Specterman, and she was married in 1926.

Lady Eaton, widow of Colonel Sir Richard Eaton, died on February 1. She was Stella, daughter of W. C. Michell, of Mentone, France, and she married Sir Richard Eaton as his second wife in 1937. He died in 1942.

Mr Denis Edward Berna[rd] Carr, United Kingdom Perm[a]nent delegate to Unesco, di[ed] on January 10 in a Lond[on] hospital. He was 60.

Brigadier Leslie Harris McRobert, CBE, who died [on] February 3 at the age of 82, w[as] formerly executive director a[nd] chairman of Cerebos Ltd, a[nd] associated companies. He w[as] High Sheriff of co Durha[m] 1954-55.



THE TIMES
BUSINESS NEWS

■ **Stock markets**
FT Ind 490.0 up 3.7
FT Gilts 69.07 down 0.03

■ **Sterling**
$2.3160 down 215 points
Index 104.3 up 0.1

■ **Dollar**
Index 100.3 up 0.9
DM 2.1815 up 338 pts

■ **Gold**
$486.50 down $14

■ **Money**
3 month sterling 13⅞-13$\frac{11}{16}$
3 month Euro $ 18$\frac{1}{16}$-17$\frac{15}{16}$
6 month Euro $ 18-17¾

IN BRIEF

Fraser statement on Lonrho bid today

Sir Hugh Fraser, former hairman of the House of 'raser, is expected to make his wn statement on Lonrho's 158m takeover bid for the comany later today.

Under the City's code on takeivers, all directors of a comany receiving a bid are reuired to make known their iews. This is usually done in a ollective statement, but the 'raser board is divided.

Although Sir Hugh was ousted s Fraser chairman at a board neeting three weeks ago, he emains a director. He was vorking on the statement with is lawyers last night and, with he approval of the Takeover 'anel, should release it this fternoon.

The Fraser Trusts, of which e is a trustee, hold about 3.5 er cent of Fraser shares and is he largest single holder after Lonrho, which now holds just under 30 per cent.

BNOC share offer

The Government is expected o offer to the public shares in he British National Oil Coroation and to issue about 500m of "revenue bonds" vailable over Post Office couners under a Bill to be introuced by Mr David Howell, the ecretary of State for Energy.

Wider role, page 18

mperial profits down

Pretax profits of the Imperial roup, the tobacco, drinks and ood conglomerate slumped 15.4m to £126.9m in the year to ctober 31. But the group's ares added 2p to 81p yesteray on news of maintained diviends totalling 10.36p gross for e year.

Financial Editor, page 19

'oundry plea

A call to the British Steel orporation to reconsider its ecision to close the Distington ngot Mould Foundry in Cumria has been made in a report roduced jointly by management and unions at the plant n the grounds that closure ould cost the corporation as uch as £6m more than eeping it open.

Generator order

GEC has won a £29m order supply two 375-megawatt urbine generators to Calgary ower in Canada. The company on the contract against cometition from Japan, which applied the first generation of urbines to the Canadian group.

'ire costs up

Fire damage last year cost isurers an estimated £469.3m n increase of almost a third ver the previous year, accordg to British Insurance ssociation figures.

teel output higher

Crude steel production from e public and private sectors ose by 5.5 per cent last month ompared with December. The verage weekly output was 35,300 tonnes.

Vall Street lower

The Dow Jones industrial verage closed 5.89 points down 936.60. The $=SDR was .23108. The £ was 0.529656.

London and Bonn plan to eliminate all European steel subsidies by 1984

By Peter Hill
Industrial Editor

Britain is expected to propose a strict timetable for the elimination of state subsidies to the European steel industry at a ministerial meeting in Brussels early next month. Ministers are likely to advocate a comprehensive package of measures directed towards eliminating all operating steel subsidies by the end of 1984.

This objective will be buttressed by an extension of the "manifest crisis" provisions of the Treaty of Paris beyond the end of June for an 18 month period, in the absence of a workable voluntary system of controls. The Government will also propose an extension of a formal decision agreed a year ago laying down rules for specific aids to the steel industry to the end of 1983.

The United Kingdom representations will also include a proposal for the establishment of a working group, bringing together representatives of member states and the Commission, which would be charged with monitoring progress towards meeting objectives and securing a greater degree of "transparency" in dealings between governments and their respective steel industries.

The outline proposals now being considered by ministers are *much in line with West* German Government thinking, but have particular significance since the United Kingdom will assume the presidency of the Community in June this year and will be in a key position to influence the course of discussions over the problems of the steel industry.



Dr Dieter Spethmann: quotas should end only if voluntary system agreed.

Within Whitehall there is confidence that the British proposals will commend themselves especially to the Bonn Government and the German steel industry, which has steadfastly opposed the continuing injection of state funds into ailing steel industries and was reluctant to accept the mandatory production quotas invoked last autumn.

The Government faces major political difficulties over the level of funding required by *British Steel over the next two* years, on which a statement will be made by Sir Keith Joseph, Secretary of State for Industry, before the end of this month. Ministers will argue that its overall plans for the United Kingdom industry, both public and private, are in line with Commission objectives of achieving an orderly restructuring of the steel industry.

After the introduction earlier this week of legislation which will lift British Steel's borrowing ceiling by £500m to £6,000m (with provision for it to be increased to £7,000m), the corporation will receive further substantial government funds for the next two years, and a Bill will be introduced to reconstruct its balance sheet. Under the survival plan drawn up by Mr Ian MacGregor, chairman, the BSC should be breaking even by the end of the 1982-83 financial year.

Meanwhile, discussions between the BSC and a number of private sector steel companies on forming joint venture operations, involving rationalization of key areas of product overlap to reduce overcapacity, are likely to be concluded within the next two weeks.

It is clear that the whole question of state aids to the steel industry has become the subject of intense discussion between London and Bonn: Sir Keith was in Bonn 10 days ago. Earlier this week, indications of the German approach to the March EEC discussions were given by Herr Martin Grüener, economics minister state secretary, who said that West Germany would be urging the Community to apply existing legal instruments to promote the dismantling of state aids.

The previous week, Dr Dieter Spethmann, chairman of the managing board of Thyssen, West Germany's largest steel producer, said that on the grounds of political commonsense the present EEC production quota system should only end if there was a voluntary agreement to replace it.

UDT bid sealed by Savings Banks

By Rosemary Unsworth

Lloyds and Scottish has decided against challenging the Trustee Savings Bank's bid for United Dominions Trust, leaving the way clear for the TSB to take over the finance house.

Mr Tom *Bryans*, TSB's chief general manager, said he was delighted with L & S's decision. "We always wanted to make a full bid, even when we were planning to buy UDT's consumer credit avtivities for £57m", he said. TSB is also expecting to hear soon that its offer will not be referred to the Monopolies Commission.

The L&S board decided on Wednesday that it would not be in shareholders' interests to propose a higher price than the 55p a share it offered in January.

The TSB offer, made two *weeks ago, was for 57p a share* valuing UDT at £110m. UDT's board had accepted the higher offer stating that it was fair and reasonable.

Mr George Duncan, L&S chairman, said his group did not want to get into an auction. It could not be certain it could justify the bid if it matched the TSB offer.

"The TSB are operating with different criteria over this bid but we did not want to risk dilution of our earnings. On top of that, UDT's recent results, which showed a fall in pretax profits from £7.9m to £3m at the halfway stage, didn't help any."

Mr Duncan said the lack of a recommendation from the UDT board for the L & S offer had not deterred his group. "The recommendation was one of the normal conditions we put on the bid, like that concerning a Monopolies Commission."

The TSB launches its bid the day that the Office of Fair Trading announced the L & S offer would not be referred to the Monopolies Commission.

The stock market also approved of the L & S withdrawal and its shares rose 6p to 154p while UDT's slipped 2p to 57p as the possibility of another bidder emerging was dismissed.

Mr Tom Bryans: delighted with decision.

Factoring bad debts up 117 pc in a year

By Our Financial Staff

Bad debts incurred on behalf of clients by member companies of the Association of British Factors rose by 117 per cent between the second half of 1979 and the second half of last year.

Mr Roger Pilcher, chairman of the association, yesterday described factoring companies as a "reasonable barometer of what is going on in industry".

Factoring, the business which includes invoice discounting, collecting money and data processing on behalf of client companies, remains a growth area. The volume of business handled on behalf of clients by members of the association rose by 13 per cent last year to £1,934m.

New entrants into the field include the formation this week of Anglo Factoring, a company created by two former directors of Griffin Factors, a leading group in the business.

They are Mr Ben Hosh, former managing director of Griffin, and Mr Fred Salinger, a former director. Their company is backed by RIT and they hope eventually to get a large slice of the market. Mr Hosh says factoring turnover doubled in the past four years and he points out that this is a useful way of improving cash flow and containing costs.

Last year, as the report of the association shows, the number of client companies using factoring rose by 15 per cent to 2,400 companies. But the total number of companies serviced by clients of factoring organizations is 275,000.

Most companies using factoring services are small to medium sized. Their turnover varies between £50,000 and £15m a year. In return for a small percentage fee for the volume of business handled, they service a client company's whole credit accounting and often arrange trade indemnity against bad debts.

President prepares US for economic package

From Frank Vogl
Washington, Feb 12

America's economy is in the worst condition since the Depression, President Reagan said today. When Americans appreciated just how bad conditions were, they would support fully the new economic programme he is to announce on February 18.

The president has made several direct appeals for major cuts in public spending during the past few weeks. Today he said that the size of the Government and its spending habits were the main cause of the country's economic distress.

To demonstrate the economy's problems, the White House has published a selected set of charts showing for example the huge trade deficit—though there is no chart showing the country's balance of payments surplus on current account.

The President's economists are developing forecasts which are brighter than those by private economists. Tentative figures indicate a sharp reduction in the rate of inflation next year, perhaps to under 7 per cent, and to real growth in 1982 of 4 per cent or more.

The forecasts, which will be completed in the next few days, will be announced when Mr *Reagan reveals his economic* policy. There is increasing scepticism in Congress about the sort of package and the reasoning behind the forecasts.

Big tax cuts and increases in defence spending are expected, as are large cuts in non-defence domestic spending. According to some calculations the net result will be to boost the federal budget deficit to more than $100,000m (about £43,000m) though President Reagan has said his programmes will cut the deficit.

The administration has already stressed that it will be demanding a tougher stance from the Federal Reserve Board and that it will criticize any efforts to boost money supply.

Mr Donald Regan, the Treasury Secretary, said, when *asked how the Government* could stick with its optimistic views, that the tax cuts should be designed to produce a big rise in savings: "If you get the savings that we think we will get from our tax cuts, and if you hold down federal spending and at the same time get the return flow in greater production, greater productivity, increased savings that will come from this programme, you will finance the debt through that and you don't have to monetize it."

Mr Regan said that the Administration was merely copying West Germany and Japan which had lower inflation. These countries had larger budget deficits relative to gross national product than America, "but they have held down their monetary base, and they kept their spending under control and if it can be done, there we can can dot it also".

New Prestel personalized service for businessmen

By Bill Johnstone

British Telecom will introduce a Prestel service later this year which will enable a businessman to have access via the telephone to his own company computer files, which would be displayed on his home television.

The new service, called Gateway to Third Party Databases, will also allow Prestel users to have their bank statements displayed on screen.

The 174,000 pages on the Prestel viewdata service are provided by about 400 information sources on dozens of different subjects. Users with properly adapted television can dial via an ordinary telephone circuit into Prestel.

The West Germans are running their own viewdata system, called Bildschirmtext, based on the Prestel system, and the development has come about as a result of work by Systems Designers for the German postal service.

At an early stage the German postal service committed itself to the introduction of a system allowing private databases to be accessed via the public viewdata network.

To date, 10 private computer systems have been integrated into the German system, including banks and travel agents.

Through the system which Prestel will introduce, travel agents will be able to reserve and book holidays instantly with all the information on the holiday immediately available on display to the customer. Users will be able to place mail orders direct from home.

In Britain only about 8,000 Prestel sets have been sold since the service started in September 1979. More than half of those are business users.

The cost of Prestel has been to blame for the poor domestic response, but the new service may make it more attractive.

Systems Designers and British Telecom are running a conference next month for senior management

Loan plea by Italian steelmaker

From John Earle
Rome, Feb 12

Italsider, Italy's state-owned and largest steelmaker, annot survive beyond the end of March unless the government pumps in emergency funds immediately, its new management said today.

Its parent Finsider has asked the government for an interest free loan of Lir2,500,000m (£1,060m) of which half would be for Italsider. Signor Mario Costa, chairman and Signor Sergio Magliola, managing director, told a Press conference at Italsider's biggest works at Taranto that if this money were not made available in time, "there would be no other way out but failure or liquidation".

The two have replaced Signor Ambrogio Puri, who resigned as joint holder of both posts last month in protest at what he maintained was lack of government support for Italsider's rationalization efforts.

Last year Italsider, with a workforce of 53,000, produced 10.8 million tons of steel, 40 per cent of Italy's output, at an estimated loss of about Lir500,00m against a loss of Lir259,000m in 1979.

The company, the two managers said, had debts of over Lir4,000,000m (£1.670m). An important aim was to cut the burden of debt servicing and other financial charges from 15 *per cent* to 5 per cent of turnover.

£1,650m EEC aid for industry last year

From Geoffrey Browning
Luxembourg, Feb 12

A high concentration of lending for investment in EEC regions worst hit by unemployment is revealed in a report on the European Investment Bank's activities in 1980 published here yesterday. Increased support was also given for energy projects.

Financing for industrial, energy and infrastructure development in the Community totalled almost 3,000 million European Units of Account (£1,650m) with 80 per cent going to Italy, Britain and Ireland, three countries facing the most difficult structural problems.

Reporting a year of consolidation, the bank said that projects supported in 1980 represented the creation or safeguarding of up to 50,000 permanent jobs, mainly in industry. This includes an expected 16,000 jobs in advance factories which the bank helped to finance in Ireland.

Britain benefited by loans of £417m bringing the total since British accession in 1973 to over £2,000m.

Small and medium-size ventures in assisted areas received £25m help. Larger industrial projects supported directly by the bank included modernization of cable factories on Merseyside, Cheshire and Manchester, construction of heavy engineering works and extension of a factory producing equipment for nuclear power stations at Darlington and the construction of a packaging machinery factory at Gateshead. At Wigan, modernization of a glassworks was carried out

The energy sector accounted for £115m with loans for the construction of a uranium enrichment plan in Cheshire. In Scotland, there was help with the construction of the Torness nuclear station, a thermal power station at Peterhead and an uprating of generating capacity in the Shetlands.

Telecommunications received £51m aid; More than £45m help was given for high speed trains, construction of part of the M65 motorway in Lancashire, the extension of the Sullom Voe oil harbour in the Shetlands, and improved cross-Channel ferry facilities. In Scotland, £42m went to help various infrastructure works carried out by regional councils to improve conditions for development.

Ireland was again the country where lending operations were most concentrated. With only one per cent of the population of the EEC, the country accounted for almost 13 per cent of financing operations.

The European Investment Bank was established in 1958 as the Community's bank for long-term finance under the Treaty of Rome. Its principal task is to channel finance on a non-profit basis to promote balanced development within the EEC.

De Lorean loans support

The Government has agreed in principle to guarantee loans of up to £10m for the De Lorean car company in Belfast —but the American-owned group will not be getting any more money from the state.

Mr Adam Butler, Northern Ireland Minister of State, told MPs in the Commons that the guarantee for commercial loans was "to help this company launch a car they believe has got good market prospects".

The De Lorean project, set up in Ulster several years ago with government aid, came in for criticism from MPs on all sides of the House, and Mr Butler twice pointed out: "The original decision to support this project was taken by the previous administration".

He said that if he had not taken the decision to help the company to get the car to market launch, there would have been "very serious employment consequences for Northern Ireland".

British Rail to sell off £40m of property interests

By Peter Hill
Industrial Editor

Properties valued at about £40m are to be added to the British Rail portfolio of assets for privatization. The transfer will swell the value of the overall *portfolio to about £220m.*

Mr Norman Fowler, Secretary of State for Transport, said in the Commons yesterday that the additional properties were "not needed for running the railway".

These assets will be transferred to the new property company which BR is to establish as a subsidiary of British Rail Investments. It will handle the introduction of private capital into railway hotels, property, hovercraft and shipping interests.

BR's non-operational property accounts for the bulk of the property which will be opened up for private capital investment. A year ago it was valued at £180m.

The additional properties were mainly large office *developments and the figure* at which they appeared in the company's balance sheet would depend on the extent of continuing railway interest and on market conditions, Mr Fowler said.

They are already let to commercial tenants; many of them are close to railway stations and the £40m price tag is considered to be only a rough estimate of possible market value.

Privatization of the BR interests, together with those of the British Transport Docks Board is provided for in the Transport Bill.

The BR Property Board as a whole produced an operating surplus of £29.4m in the last financial year from a gross rental income of £41.8m before development land tax.

Optimism on US economy boosts dollar

By Frances Williams

The dollar surged forward yesterday on a wave of optimism about the prospects for the United States economy. It gained against all the leading currencies, rising 3.38 pfennigs to close at DM2.1815 and up 2.15 cents against the pound to finish at $2.3160. Gold fell sharply in response to the firmer dollar, down $14 at $486.50.

The dollar's strength was based primarily on higher Eurodollar interest rates, and expectations of continuing high rates in the months to come.

Dollar rates were boosted by news that retail sales in January rose by 2 per cent after a small rise in December, signifying continued resilience of the American economy.

President Reagan's economic package of tax and government spending cuts to be announced next Wednesday, is thought likely to stimulate economic growth and so sustain demand for credit. This together with the need to finance the large Federal budget deficit forecast for the coming year, is expected to keep interest rates high.

The pound, despite weakening against the dollar, gained against Continental currencies, helped by yesterday's unchanged minimum lending rate decision. Its effective exchange rate index rose 0.1 to 104.3 (average 1975=100).

With the dollar, it reached a new record against the lira in Milan, and it rose 3 pfennigs against the Deutchemark to finish London trading at around DM5.05.

The market now takes the view that a cut in minimum lending rate of 2 per cent is likely to be announced in the Budget on March 10.

PRICE CHANGES

Rises

Nicholson	9p to 142p
Lowty Grp	22p to 215p
Expanded Metal	6p to 55p
Fothergill & H.	14p to 122p
GEC	10p to 645p
Guthrie Corp	50p to 712p
Howard Machine	3p to 27p
Lasmo	15p to 659p
F. Pratt Eng	20p to 90p
UC Investments	42p to 459p

Falls

Dustin E.	2p to 24p
Bok W.	3p to 10p
Husky Oil	6p to 650p
Sumatra	35p to 342p
Massey-Ferg	13p to 185p
Muirhead	4p to 100p
Peko Wallsend	15p to 413p
Rand Mine Prop	10p to 228p
Vlakfontein	10p to 200p
Westpool Inv	6p to 80p

THE POUND

	Bank buys	Bank sells
Australia $	2.06	1.98
Austria Sch	37.40	35.20
Belgium Fr	84.50	80.50
Canada $	2.86	2.77
Denmark Kr	15.10	15.30
Finland Mkk	9.88	9.38
France Fr	11.98	11.48
Germany DM	5.21	4.97
Greece Dr	119.00	113.00
Hongkong $	12.70	12.10
Ireland Pt	1.39	1.33
Italy Lr	2530.00	2420.00
Japan Yn	502.00	476.00
Netherlands Gld	5.66	5.40
Norway Kr	13.25	12.60
Portugal Esc	134.50	128.00
South Africa Rd	2.21	2.06
Spain Pta	203.50	194.50
Sweden Kr	11.19	10.64
Switzerland Fr	4.77	4.54
USA $	2.38	2.31
Yugoslavia Dnr	88.50	83.00

Rates for small denomination bank notes only, as supplied yesterday by Barclays Bank International Ltd. Different rates apply to travellers' cheques and other foreign currency business.

British Telecom to join battle with Thomson over giveaway directories

Opening a new chapter in Yellow Pages

Yellow Pages, which has been exhorting people to let their fingers do the walking for the past few years, will soon turn what was once a gentle jog into a competitive marathon.

British Telecom, owner of the Yellow Pages telephone directory, is about to join battle with the Thomson Organisation which first ran the group's Yellow Pages sales.

Thomson was dropped in 1979 and reacted by announcing a new organization to sell space in directories delivered free to all homes, with or without telephones, in direct competition to the Yellow Pages service.

Now it seems that British Telecom is set to strike back. ITT and General Telephone, the two groups which won the Yellow Pages contract from Thomson, will market giveaway directories too.

The state telephone organization was coy about details of its plans yesterday and said an announcement was due shortly.

"Our plans at the moment are in confidence," a Telecom spokesman said. "We expect to start selling space fairly soon. We have some areas picked out for the launch which we are not revealing now."

Telecom claims that it has been publicly planning its entry into the general directory giveaway market for some years though advertising agencies and its rival, Thomson, believes that the move was seriously mooted only after the Thomson project was announced last July.

ITT and General Telephone will, apparently, produce the current Yellow Pages directories in addition to the local giveaway version. If the circulation area clashes with that of a Thomson publication, it could land the luckless householder with three overlapping publications.

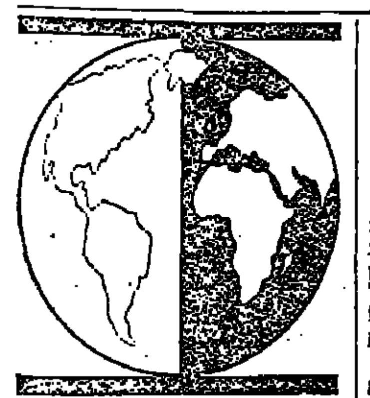
Mr Robin Eyres, managing director of Thomson Directories, said yesterday that the company had already published three directories: in Bournemouth, Bradford and Kingston. A further three for Reading, Middlesbrough and Richmond, would be distributed during March and April.

The company was planning to sell a further 120 directories this year and had, as its target, some 200 directories covering 80 per cent of the United Kingdom population by the end of 1982. The selling is carried out by the staff who were formerly employed on producing Yellow Pages.

"The reaction from the market has been extremely encouraging", Mr Eyres said.

Mr Eyres said he understood a number of companies other than British Telecom had looked at the directory business because the market in Britain appeared underdeveloped in comparison to other European countries.

David Howson



Reparation for British Ceylon shareholders

British, Sri Lankan and other shareholders of the British Ceylon Corporation, the biggest company in the coconut products industry, which with three subsidiary companies was nationalized on February 25, 1972, are now to receive compensation totalling 16.47 million rupees (£395,000).

The compensation includes the payment of interest which was decided on by the present United National Party Government and which amounts to 5.7m rupees (£136,700).

To enable the payment of compensation, the corporation and its subsidiaries are to be placed in voluntary liquidation. At the time of nationalization the company's chairman was the late Mr Robert Singleton-Salmon who had been the last British member of Sri Lanka's Parliament until 1970.

Slower price growth

Consumer price growth in the Western industrialized world slowed in December to a monthly rate of 0.7 per cent from 0.8 per cent in November and October and one per cent in September, the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development said in Paris.

Indo-Soviet trade

The Soviet Union is likely to emerge as the largest buyer of Indian consumer and engineering goods in the next five years, under a trade agreement signed during President Leonid Brezhnev's recent visit to India.

Italy's reserves fall

Italy's net official reserves fell 3.5 per cent in December to $59,569m (£25,787m) from $61,706m (26,712m) in November but were up from £38,160m (£16,519m) the previous year.

Japan trade deficit

Japan's Customs-cleared trade balance turned into a deficit of $2,480m (£1,060m) in January from a preliminary $1,480m December surplus, but narrowed from a $3,450m deficit a year earlier.

Report urges shift in public policy and aid from large companies

Helping hand for small businesses

A further shift in public policy in favour of small businesses, is one of the main recommendations of a report on the promotion of small business out yesterday. The report, commissioned by Shell UK from the Economists Advisory Group, compares measures in seven countries.

It says that UK public policy has been gradually shifting in favour of small businesses since 1971, when the committee of inquiry on small firms (the Bolton committee) reported. "But progress has been maddeningly slow", commented Mr Graham Bannock, the EAG's managing director and co-author of the report. "The scale and range of measures to promote small business in Britain is tiny compared with all the other countries studied."

Specific recommendations include the introduction of a state credit guarantee scheme. Another is that a proportion of North Sea revenues should be paid annually into an invested fund for the next 10 years.

The revenue from this fund, with capital and interest payments on loans made from it, should be loaned to small businesses at interest rates not more than those at which blue chip companies can borrow.

More could be done by large companies to promote small business, the report says. "Most activity is confined to only a small proportion of the 100 largest companies, and the nationalized industries (except British Steel) are conspicuous by their absence in this field."

Purchasing and sub-contracting, as well as hiving off unprofitable activities to small business, all offer practical scope, it says. For example, the Co-operative Wholesale Society has made a special effort to market local products from small companies with spectacular success.

In addition, small businesses could do more to help themselves. Mr Bannock said he regarded the chambers of commerce as an important channel where representation could be improved at national and local government level. However there was also a strong case for giving British chambers of commerce the same public law status and assured revenue that they enjoyed in several European countries, Mr Bannock said.

Apart from more apprenticeships, the best way of increasing industrial influence over education and training would be to involve the chambers of commerce more deeply. Once public law status for the chambers was introduced, they could influence secondary education more.

"In continental Europe, it is they and not the universities, business schools or government agencies which control the brunt of post-school education". The report adds that training in small companies is almost completely neglected by public support services.

In Germany, Austria and Switzerland, about half of all leavers from compulsory schooling take apprenticeships, about 80 per cent of them in small companies. In Britain, only about 18 per cent of school leavers become apprentices.

"In Britain, business generally has insufficient influence over education. The result is that school leavers are ill-prepared for private sector employment and very few indeed are prepared for the possibility that they might work for themselves."

The Promotion of Small Business: a seven country study is published by Shell UK, PO Box 148, Shell Mex House, The Strand, London WC2R 0DX.

Patricia Tisdall
Management Correspondent

Wider role planned for BNOC

By Our industrial staff

A much-expanded role for the British National Oil Corporation in the development of North Sea resources over the next decade has been forecast by Mr Malcolm Ford, head of development for the group.

BNOC could be employing twice its present workforce before the 1980s are over, "given a reasonable share of new (exploration) blocks and reasonable freedom to invest by Government", Mr Ford said yesterday.

The corporation employs 1,930 people, of whom 950 are based in Glasgow, 780 in Aberdeen and 200 in its London office.

Mr Ford told a meeting of the West of Scotland branch of the Institute of Petroleum in Glasgow that the public failed to appreciate sometimes that BNOC was not a government supervisory agency.

Mr Fords remarks come on the eve of a Bill to be introduced by Mr David Howell, the Secretary of State for Energy, allowing the public to invest directly in state-owned interests in the North Sea.

The Bill is expected to give the minister powers to offer shares in BNOC and to issue a loan stock linked to those fields in which BNOC has a stake. It is thought that the Government wants to issue some £500m worth of small denomination "revenue bonds" available over Post Office counters.

UK investment boosts Ireland's growth rate

By John Huxley

Despite world-wide recession and rising unemployment, the Irish Republic's drive for industrial growth resulted in record levels of job creation and manufacturing investment last year, it was claimed yesterday. More than 2,000 jobs came from British companies.

New industrial projects approved by the Industrial Development Authority of Ireland (IDA) during 1980 would result in the creation of 35,600 jobs, Mr Padraic White, the new managing director, said.

Of these, 17,000 jobs will come from American, European and Japanese companies, while an estimated 2,000 will be with British companies enticed into investing in the Irish Republic. This is the highest number of jobs created by British companies in any year since the IDA opened its offices in London 10 years ago, and represents fixed asset investment of 17m punts (about £12.6m).

Commenting on the IDAs success with British industry, much of it in the services sector, Mr White said that the jobs target was "reasonably modest". He added that economic exchange was healthy for both countries.

The actual number of jobs created in 1980 was 17,000—a total which the IDA admits was not much larger than the number of jobs lost because of the decline of traditional industries.

Indeed, unemployment in the Republic now stands at about 10.8 per cent, an increase of about a third on last year. Much of the increase was explained by the growth of the labour market which was swelled by school-leavers.

Mr Paraic White: "Reasonably modest" jobs target.

Half of Ireland's population is under 25 and the Government has launched a massive job-creation programme. This year, the IDA aims to approve grant aid for projects that will create 30,000 jobs, the same target as for 1980.

The authority dismisses allegations that its incentives contravene Community law, but says they are "unmatched in Europe". They include a maximum tax rate of 10 per cent on manufacturing industry profits until the 21st century.

Single trade and industry body urged

By Peter Hill
Industrial Editor

Urgent reorganization of the Departments of Trade and Industry into a single department was called for last night in the interests of developing a coherent approach to a big part of the private business sector.

Mr Alan Lord, managing director of Dunlop Holdings, and formerly second permanent secretary at the Treasury, said in a lecture that it had never seemed sensible to separate the two departments particularly in a nation with a higher proportion of exports than almost any other.

Speaking on government and industry at the Royal Institute of Public Administration, he said that the two departments had previously operated as a single unit and although there had been organizational problems, by the mid-1970s the DTI was beginning to achieve considerable success.

"The harvest was there to be reaped, but it was never actually gathered in; and in my view the sooner the two departments are put back together the better.

"There would no doubt be short-term costs from that reorganization and it might well be that in the immediate future there would be relatively little change in the realities of life.

"But there would at least be then a single department with the framework for a coherent approach to a major part of the private business sector", he said.

New outlook for window frames of plastic

Leaders of the plastics processing industry have launched a campaign to win a greater share of the £1,600m a year market for window frames, dominated by timber and aluminium users.

The British Plastics Federation estimates that the installed value of windows (including the cost of labour and glass) is about £400m in home improvement alone. The value of windows in new buildings is worth far more, perhaps as much as £1,200m a year.

So far, the share taken by plastic frames is small—probably less than one per cent. In West Germany, by contrast, plastic accounts for almost half of window-frame sales.

Mr Alan Bell, chairman of the federation's newly-formed Plastics Windows Group, explained yesterday that the sales campaign would be directed primarily towards the "replacement" market at first, where it was hoped to increase to 10 per cent the share of plastic windows during 1981. This would mean increasing the value of installed windows to about £45m, of which the plastics extrusions would be worth about a quarter.

Last year, an estimated 5,000 to 6,000 tonnes of plastics were converted into window frames. The new group, which represents more than 40 manufacturing companies, hopes to have increased the volume to 20,000 tonnes a year by 1985.

Plastic windows are made mainly from PVC. Their supporters argue that they are more efficient insulators, reduce the likelihood of condensation, and, most important of all perhaps, do not require painting, do not chip, flake, pit or rot.

Mr Bell, who is managing director of a plastics company which will alone spend £1m on consumer advertising this year, says that plastic window frames are price-competitive with aluminium products. Although they are more expensive than wooden frames they last much longer.

The plastics federation hopes that a British standard for plastic windows will be produced by the British Standards Institute later this year. If this proves difficult—and it did for aluminium windows—the federation has indicated that it will try to issue its own guidelines.

The move into the windows market marks a further initiative by the plastics industry to provide substitutes for more traditional products. In the construction industry this has already gone a long way and companies producing asbestos, clay and concrete alternatives have been on the defensive.

John Huxley

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Big rise in standing charges

From the Chairman of The British Association of Retired Persons

Sir, John Bray's letter January 29, and Gordon May's reply (February 3), have been of particular interest to us, as we have recently conducted an opinion poll of our thousands of members throughout the United Kingdom on the associated question of "standing charges" for gas, electricity and telephones.

From the overwhelming response which we received there is no doubt that while substantial increases in unit costs have been recently introduced, these are small compared with the rises in standing charges. These bear most heavily on small users and retired persons, who, while they try by strict economizing, to make a little reduction in the unit usage, find this totally negatived by the huge increases in standing charges.

To take gas as an example, in my gas bill for April, 1980, the unit charge per therm (after the initial minimum charge) was 16.50p, while the standing charge was £2.16 per quarter. My latest gas bill in January 1981, shows the bulk consumption charge at 21.2p and £6 for the standing charge. This indicates an increase of no less than *28 per cent* in the unit price, and incredibly of *170 per cent* in the standing charge. And all in less than a year, too.

The standing charge cannot be avoided, however hard one may try to economize, and this huge increase is virtually highway robbery of the consumer; it is a totally unjustifiable added burden which bears most heavily on the small user, that is, the poor and needy, and the retired living on fixed or nearly-fixed small incomes.

Many British Association of Retired Persons (Barp) members tell us that their standing charges are now considerably in excess of their cost of gas used. The excuse for raising gas prices was to restrict consumption of the "wasting asset" of North Sea gas, but big increases in standing charges cannot be justified on this score, nor can they be justified when the gas board's profits are so enormous. Similar increases in electricity and telephone bills are also appearing and the public seem to be at the mercy of the highwaymen of nationalization. It is high time that the Government took urgent steps to put a stop to this robbery.

I am, Sir,
Yours truly,
IAN MACKENZIE,
Chairman,
The British Association of Retired Persons,
14 Frederick Street,
Edinburgh, EH2 2HB.
February 7.

Conversion rates when using credit cards

From Mr J. M. Lichtig

Sir, Mr S. Proctor (February 10) is correct when he suggests the use of an Access card rather than a Visa/Barclaycard overseas.

Travelling through Israel early last year, I used both cards, but all the transactions effected by me were paid for in United States dollars, as opposed to Israeli lira (as the currency was still called then).

The result? My Access statements correctly showed dollar transactions converted into pound sterling, but with Visa/Barclaycard statements showed transactions in Israeli lira, converted into pounds sterling, without any reference to payments in dollars at all. An exchange of letters and a telephone call to the Barclaycard centre in Northampton revealed the following:

1. Transactions made outside the United Kingdom and charged in the local currency are converted directly from that currency into sterling, for example: Switzerland—Swiss francs into sterling.

2. Transactions made outside the United Kingdom but charged in a currency other than the local currency are converted into the local currency. However, the conversion into pounds sterling is based on the original currency paid, not the local one as converted, as I experienced.

3. All Barclaycard transactions made outside the United Kingdom are processed by Visa (of which Barclaycard is a member) in the United States of America, giving rise to the dollar conversion "in certain circumstances", as experienced by Mr A. F. Fell.

What these certain circumstances are, were not explained by Barclaycard and some clarification is obviously needed. I would be interested to know what would happen if one actually paid for goods or services abroad in pounds sterling. The mind boggles as to how many conversions this would lead to; or would Visa/Barclaycard waive conversion in this case?

Yours faithfully,
JERROLD M. LICHTIG,
34 Southbourne Crescent,
Hendon,
London NW4 2JY.
February 11.

Travelling first-class by Qantas

From Mr Ivor Hall

Sir, I recently travelled on a first-class ticket to Bahrain. My outward journey was with British Airways whose service I found to be very good. My return journey was intended to be with BA but unfortunately their flight wac cancelled. I therefore transferred to Qantas.

Qantas were not prepared to accept my BA first-class ticket without the payment of a 10 per cent surcharge. I declined to pay this surcharge and instead travelled in their business class. I have since taken this up with Qantas, who I believe to be members of Iata, who advised me that their 10 per cent surcharge is for better service, cuisine, more space between sleeper chairs and better audio system. Of these items the only one missing on the BA outward journey was the special earphones.

No doubt many business travellers on the Australian route book first-class tickets on Qantas without knowing about their surcharge as their bookings are done through their secretaries or travel agents. My own travel agent is unaware of the 10 per cent surcharge and quoted me the same first-class fare for BA and Qantas.

IVOR HALL,
Ivor Hall & Associates Limited,
34 Bisham Gardens,
London N6 6DD.
February 10.

Difficult decisions on industrial training

From Mr R. Dini

Sir, It is apparent from the second reading of the Employment and Training Bill that Parliament is considering the proposed changes with a great deal of concern judging from your report of the proceedings on February 10. Even Mr Prior admits the conflicting views give a background that would make it difficult to decide what changes are necessary.

However, one cannot help but accept his or the Manpower Services Commission's thinking on the question of a review of the existing system in an attempt to anticipate the training requirements of the future, with or without the ITBs. A mistake now because of political attitudes could prove disastrous for the United Kingdom and one hopes that Mr Prior realizes this in his accepted responsibility in the matter of the final decision and that he will prove the Opposition speaker, Mr Harold Walker, wrong when he claims that the true origin of the Bill has been the Tory Party Centre for Policy Studies.

Most people would agree that future training must be effective to assist the changing role of thousands of people. However the country and those seeking jobs just cannot afford a long time gap while politicians "play at party games". Review quickly the ITBs by all means: destroy them "No".

Yours faithfully,
R. DINI,
Managing Director,
Live Services Limited,
345a Station Road,
Harrow,
Middlesex HA1 2XP.
February 11.

Overseas mail charges

From Mr Laszlo Gombos

Sir, The Director of International Post Affairs has written to you (February 6) justifying increases in overseas mail rates and (of course, claims that these increases are more than justified. I submit that his presentation is not complete since he makes no allowance at all for the benefit arising from the higher value of the pound. In ordinary commercial accounting one would allow for lower costs—not only for increased costs—and perhaps if this normal method were to be followed, the service made more efficient and the administration lightened, we would not be faced in this and other public services with automatic increases whenever one cost element goes up.

Incidentally, can the Director tell us why the lower postcard postage rates have been so discreetly dropped?

LASZLO GOMBOS,
Garrick Club,
London WC2E 9AY.

New telephone kiosks

From Mr Graham Chainey

Sir, British Telecom have recently installed on a busy junction in Cambridge two of their new acrylic-shield open telephone kiosks, making the claim for them that they are more vandal-proof than traditional boxes, and more modern in appearance.

The thinking behind this seems to me confused. For one thing, in an open kiosk without door the apparatus would seem more vulnerable to the attention of passing vandals, not less, than in a box with the standard resistant door. I suspect it more likely that they are designed to need less attention: having no floor, they can accumulate no litter.

In the second place, siting open boxes on a noisy junction will not result in improved telephone conversations. Apart from the noise, they are also open to wind and rain.

These trendy new boxes seem to me, in short, to be symptomatic of two pernicious modern tendencies: one is the putting of operational convenience before the convenience of the customer; the other is the continuing erosion of privacy in our lives. The old traditional phone box in which one could hold a private telephone conversation, neither over-heard nor deafened by outside noise, is rapidly disappearing. Already they have virtually vanished from stations and other indoor locations. Are they about to disappear from our streets too?

GRAHAM CHAINEY
47 St Barnabas Road,
Cambridge CB1 2BX.
February 10.

Calendar design

From Mr F. Ellis

Sir, Mr A. C. Jarrold (February 10) asks us how we like our calendars laid out. I much prefer one single horizontal line for each month, from the first to the last day of the month with Sundays in red. The layout suits calendars with or without "a pictorial element" and is perfectly legible. Some Swiss calendars use the layout with great effect.

F. ELLIS,
39 Limes Road,
Folkestone,
Kent CT19 4AU.

Appreciating 'sea-kindly' ships

From Mr D. Laurent Giles

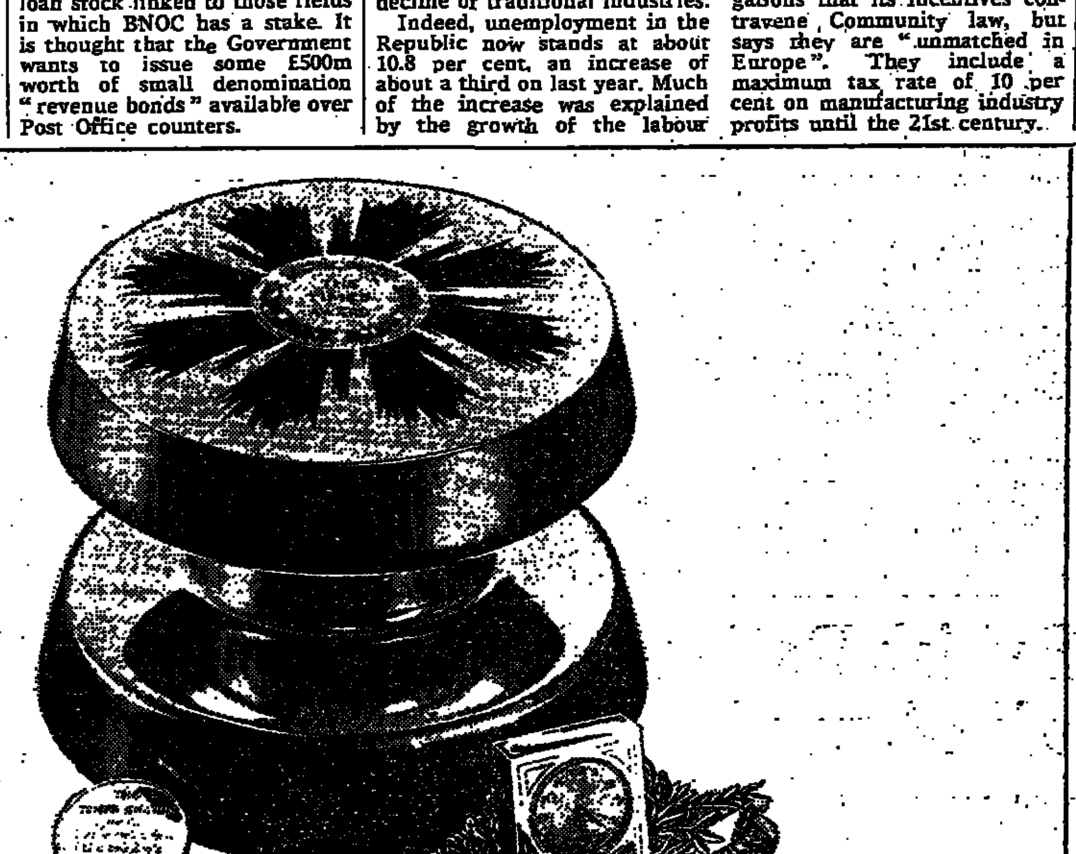
Sir, Hugh Whitwell's elegant verse (February 11) castigating my use of the expression "sea-kindly" raises wide implications.

Sea-kindly has been used by English seafarers since time immemorial to describe the behaviour of a ship or boat as moving gently in her natural element (OE "sae" and "gecyndlic"). In my experience the expression was most notably used by the great "Bubbles" Smith of Lymington, one of the most lucid exponents of the essential qualities of different ships from Men o' War to the Lymington Pram. Indeed, in his case, the expression was often adapted to describe the behaviour of any craft, vessel or creature—and in an astounding variety of situations—from his own fishing boat to the Mew Langton Beer Boat, or even the serene progress of Mrs Alice Doe on her bicycle.

This delicious expression has nothing to do with the more mundane word "seaworthy" which simply implies mathematics and safety at sea and is of no philosophical consequence.

If Mr Whitwell still doubts me I would gladly take him to sea in my own little boat to illustrate the point.

DAVID GILES,
Thorneycroft, Giles & Associates Ltd,
The Embankment,
Bembridge,
Isle of Wight PO35 5NS.
February 11.



BY THE FINANCIAL EDITOR

Imperial's unfulfilled promise

:he all too familiar tale from Imperial Group after the fifth consecutive year of virtually static profits is one of immense future potential if only the right keys can be turned. But for the time being, Imperial looks like a group travelling nowhere quickly and the income stock stigma holds fast.

Pre-tax profits are down £15.4m at £126.9m and, allowing for an unexpected boost of £5m or so as a result of accountancy changes, are much in line with market forecasts. But the maintenance of the dividend lifted the shares 2p to 81p where a yield of 12.8 per cent explains a fully taxed p/e of over 9.

Once again, the unfashionable tobacco interests have provided the mainstay lifting their trading surplus fractionally to £80.4m although fierce competition saw a sharp deterioration in the second-half, which hardly augurs well given most Budget expectations. Courage also raised its contribution almost £4m to £42.4m, boosted by reconstruction of the Harp lager interests while the United States Howard Johnson purchase did remarkably well to turn in £13.3m for the half-year and to leave something over after financing costs of £11.5m.

But the continuing squeeze on egg and poultry prices in the United Kingdom has left the foods surplus down by more than half to £10.3m, while paper, board and plastics losses widened to £3.3m in the face of heavy losses at the now closed Bristol mill.

For the current year, scope for the United Kingdom interests appear minimal with hopes riding on a sharp consumer spending upturn in the second-half to offset a poor interim period. Ho-Jo may yet prove the buy of the century but until Imperial completes the management studies it is not going to provide any fireworks.

Meanwhile, the balance sheet has come through the Ho-Jo purchase in fine shape. Net gearing has jumped to close on 78 per cent but should settle back to nearer 65 per cent when Imperial cashes in its remaining £106m of gilts to satisfy most of the £141m eurodollar debt outstanding as a result of the deal and takes in asset revaluations.

Profits could work out at little more than latest figures without significant United Kingdom recovery, but, as ever, the dividend looks reasonably sound although only 1½ times covered historically and fractionally short-earned on a CCA basis.

Dowty

Feeling the NCB cutbacks

Dowty's shares have been under pressure in recent weeks, sandwiched between fears about the impact of the National Coal Board's cutbacks and hopes based on Dowty's booming aerospace business. The market had been paying most attention to the bearish argument so the surprisingly good interim figures, showing a £1.7m rise in profits to £19.1m pretax, sent the shares spurting up 22p to 215p.

The mining division has indeed been suffering with volume down by over one fifth and profits by a third to £5.7m. There has been no replacement for the Chinese order, the NCB cutbacks have been hurting and there is every indication that worse is to come in the second half and possibly next year too. In fact, NCB ordering has been chopped by about two-fifths and Dowty is clearly hoping the Government will relent on cash limits.

In contrast, aerospace has seen volume rise as the Tornado hit full production and margins have recovered after suffering from the engineering strike last year. The result was a two-thirds rise in profits to £10.7m and this division is still going strong.

So with the small electronics division making progress and helping to offset the problems in the industrial division which is now bumping along the bottom, Dowty should still keep profits moving ahead during the recession and be able to cover its capital requirements from cash flow. Full-year profits should be about £39m, suggesting a more or less static second half overall, although because of the new stock relief rules earnings per share will probably be down.

Assuming the final dividend rises by a tenth like the interim, the shares yield 3.3 per cent and the prospective p/e ratio is about 15½. With Dowty now in a quieter phase because of the problems in mining equipment the shares may not go far in the short-term but still look soundly based on a longer view.

Sugar

Organizing the home market

As if their nerves were not already stretched enough by the Monopolies and Mergers Commission enquiry into S. & W. Berisford's bid for British Sugar, shareholders in those companies and in Tate & Lyle now have to take into account Mr Peter Walker's thoughts on how the United Kingdom sugar market should be organized. The key is how much a reduction in the supply of sugar to the British market would diminish BSC's attractiveness.

Not for the first time, Mr Walker is suggesting a cut of 200,000 tonnes in Britain's EEC sugar quota, with the quite reasonable proviso that other countries quotas are reduced too. This would lower allowable beet sugar production in Britain to about 1.15m tonnes, roughly BSC's current maximum output but 100,000 tonnes below its target.

BSC will fight tooth and nail to stop any thwarting of its ambitions, but a quota reduction would be dearly welcome at Tate & Lyle and Berisford. A major problem for BSC is that five or six of its factories produce less than the 3,500 tonnes a day of sliced beet than is considered the economic minimum. Some of these factories are unprofitable, and a quota reduction could tip them over the edge. As it is, all of the company's £150m investment has been concentrated in six bigger factories.

Some market cynics in any case think that Mr Walker's ideas were only intended to throw a smokescreen around the closure of Tate's Liverpool refinery. That aside, it seems unlikely they will come to fruition. If the Monopolies and Mergers Commission rules against Berisford, BSC will be free to pursue its aggressive production and marketing campaign, which could mean further encroachments on Tate's territory, despite the latter's reckoning that the market is approximately in balance. If Berisford's bid proceeds, the company could find itself emeshed in the quota tangle, its loyalties divided between BSC and the cane producers and refiners.

● *British Steel Corporation's discussions with the bulk steel producers in the private sector have tended to overshadow the plight of smaller special steel groups trying to eke out a living from a decreasing number of customers.*

Even though the results of BSC's talks with Duport, Tube Investments, GKN and Hadfields are unlikely to have any direct effect on the smaller groups, it is they who will have to live with the new market environment which emerges. Many, already on short time, have taken unpleasant measures to cut overheads. But the subsequent deterioration means that this year they may have to decide whether to remain in steel making.

Special steel is a highly fragmented business falling into three main areas, highly specialized alloy for aerospace, defence and nuclear industries; high speed and tool steel for hand tool and machine cutting; and stainless steel.

At the top of the alloy market Johnson & Firth Brown told shareholders this week that they had made a first-quarter loss but should make profits in the second half, with their optimism stemming from restocking orders from Rolls-Royce.

Aurora in high speed and tool steel has lost its acquisitive thirst, having rationalized Edgar Allen Balfor and Samuel Osborne just as the market dropped from beneath it. Neepsend, reporting soon for the half year, has already warned that the current year they will at best break even, it is probable that it has not made money on steel in the past five years.

The stock market has been nervous of steel stocks since GKN's results. Johnson, Aurora and Neepsend are all historically yielding well over 30 per cent. But yesterday's raid on F. Pratt, which stirred the engineering sector, demonstrated that this level of discounts to assets is liable to provoke a flurry of takeover activity.

Frank Vogl talks to the chairman of Exxon

What big business wants from Mr Reagan

Washington

Mr Clifton C. Garvin, Jr. started work 34 years ago at the age of 25 as a process engineer at an Exxon refinery in Louisiana. Today he is perhaps the most powerful industrialist in America. His views will not only influence the economic programme that President Reagan announces next Wednesday, but will be heard frequently in the White House over the next four years.

Mr Garvin is both chairman of Exxon, the world's largest industrial company in terms of sales volume, and head of the Business Roundtable, a select policy group which is the prime spokesman of big business's views in the United States.

Mr Garvin is cautiously optimistic about the economic policies of the United States, but he is concerned deeply about the precarious state of global oil supplies.

He says that the business community is confident that the Reagan Administration will come to grips with the fundamental problems of inflation and productivity.

"We just know instinctively that we as a nation are living beyond our means and spending more than we are able to generate and that our search for equity, as it were, among all the people in the country, has just maybe been taken too far."

Mr Garvin expects the new President to put forward policies that reduce public spending as a percentage of gross national product and provide incentives to boost savings and investment.

"We do not expect overnight miracles. It is going to take a considerable period of time for the nation to readjust from the way it has been going and we hope he will stand firm."

The Exxon chief says that the President's ability to hold fast and take the criticism that his programme of large spending cuts will involve (particularly as they will produce very little improvement in the economy's health this year) is going to be absolutely critical, but he is confident that Mr Reagan will be firm.



Mr Clifton C. Garvin, chairman of Exxon and head of the Business Roundtable, the influential body of top American industrialists: he is cautiously optimistic about the United States's economic policies.

What industry desperately needs from the Government, Mr Garvin says, is consistent policies. He hopes the Congress will adopt the Reagan Administration's approach of planning tax and spending programmes on a full four-year basis. If such a long-term policy concept is adopted then the private sector will really start to invest.

"I think there will be problems with the Congress, don't misunderstand me. But I sense that the mood of the Congress is 'Let us give him a crack at it'. I have a sort of sixth sense that he is going to get much of what he is asking for."

Business, Mr Garvin says, is encouraged by the lack of organized political opposition to the President's approach at present.

"I would be a most disappointed person if mid-summer rolls along and a good bit of this (new economic programme) has not been put in place."

He says that it is clear that now there will be much closer compatability of views between business and government and that cooperation will develop.

"I believe we need to change the pattern of the last 20 years, which has been one of confrontation."

He is not keen on the idea of an American "social contract", but says that there are broad policy areas where government, business and the trade unions should work together. He knows of no administration plans to develop such coordination.

"I do not suggest we change the normal relationship that exists in this country between management and labour. I think it is a healthy one and personally I am not looking for change."

Mr Garvin hopes that this government will help to improve the general image of busines in America. He laments that he does not know how the public view of oil companies can be improved. "You will find today that the oil industry is at the bottom of the list next to Congress in terms of the confidence people have. We are greatly disturbed by that and we do not know how to change the public perception of 225 million Americans."

Turning to energy policy, Mr Garvin says that he is somewhat surprised that President Reagan moved so fast to decontrol oil prices. He hopes that the Administration will now go on to decontrol natural gas prices.

Americans had surprised many people recently by conserving oil and the conservation effort was going to continue.

Mr Garvin is clearly worried about the oil outlook. How do you secure oil price moderation among the members of the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries?

Obviously United States policy towards the Middle East, and Israel is a factor with Arab oil exporters and, says Mr Garvin, as long as there is no real solution involving the Palestinians says Mr Garvin, the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries will use the situation as an excuse in their oil price-setting strategies.

"It has never been clear though, if you could wave a magic wand and solve all these political problems to everyone's satisfaction, that these oil problems would go away. We are dealing with finite reserves that are disappearing over a number of decades. The real difficulty that we have had has not been higher oil prices as such, but the rapidity of the price increases.

"You hope that the powerful Opec countries will see that the wellbeing of the industrial world and the developing nations is in their own interest, too. They say they see this. But it depends upon what one views as being harmful.

"It has been my belief that those in Opec that think like this and see this also believe that they can make the judgment as to what the danger point is for the industrial world and what price rise gets the world into trouble. In all fairness we cannot even take that judgment ourselves in our own country."

Under present circumstances, every public planner must reckon with the distinct possibility of another oil price shock, another sudden sharp increase in prices. Mr Garvin's analysts at Exxon say that the minimum increase in 1981 will be equal to inflation. But the Iran-Iraq war, for example, has made matters desperately uncertain.

Mr Garvin explains that the supply and demand equation today suggests a shortage of one million barrels of oil a day. "There is a shortage of supply. Now there is still an excess of working inventories of what we would guess at 300 to 400 million barrels in the free world. You can pull on that for almost a year at one million barrels a day.

"How did I get my one million barrels a day figures for the shortage? At the start the Iran-Iraq war cut off about four million barrels of exports. Now the two together are exporting up to one million barrels a day as far as we can find out. The other Opec countries have gone up by maybe as much as one million barrels and we see new production in the North Sea and Mexico and places outside the Opec adding up to maybe another one million barrels in 1981.

"We can see a way through this year, but it does not leave any leeway for anything to happen, if the war intensifies, or they go at each other in a different way. It is too big a system to have that fine a balance. Ideally the system runs with 4 to 5 per cent spare. That is the way you are sure everyone gets what the want. How many years we are going to see ahead with that sort of spare is something I wouldn't want to guess. I would guess not very many".

Technology

Using the laser as a scalpel

Surgeons are learning to use the laser beam with the same degree of skill as that with which they wield the scalpel. Lasers are now being used in America, Israel and Britain.

Ophthalmic surgery, gynaecology and even the removal of tattoos are all fields where they are making an impact.

Laser (light amplification by stimulated emission of radiation) is used to describe what happens to a molecule or ion of a substance, (usually in a mixture of gases like helium, carbon dioxide, neon or argon, when it is excited by stimulating it with an electric charge or light from a lamp.

This excitation forces the molecules or ions of gas into an "unnatural" state (in which they are no longer stable). As they return to their previous state, packages or "photons" of light are emitted. These photons when concentrated together constitute a laser beam.

The surgeon is able, depending on the type of gas used in the laser and the power emitted, to use the tool either as a cutting edge or as a coagulator (blood thickener).

The surgical use of lasers dates back to the early sixties when pulses of light emitted by an excited rod made from ruby stone were used as a coagulator. The rod, about 150mm long and 10mm in diameter, was excited by flashes of light from a xenon lamp or similar source.

As the technology of lasers progressed, artificial stones were used in place of the ruby.

These lasers are used as coagulators during gastric surgery. The light from the laser is passed down an optical telescope into the stomach to arrest gastric bleeding.

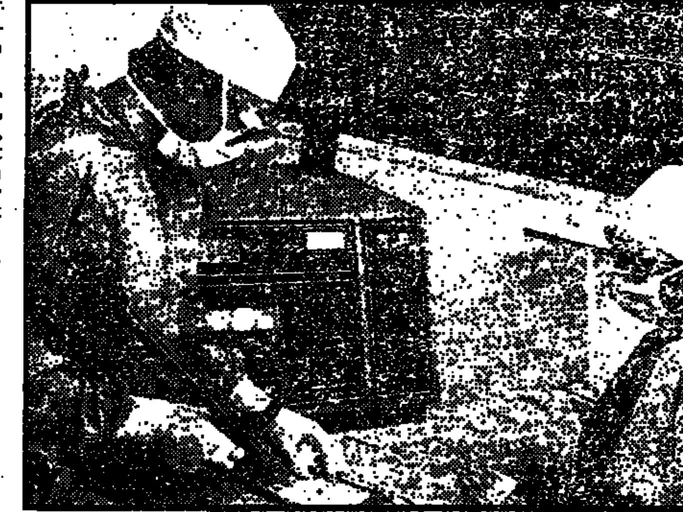
The other type of laser, mainly used as a cutting edge, is the carbon dioxide laser, which would typically be about one metre long and 5-10mm in diameter. The gas is excited by an electric current and can produce about 40 watts power. This laser is being used in Britain and America for surgical operations in gynaecology.

The surgical laser emits between 20 and 40 watts and has the beam focused on an area of about 0.5mm square. At each end of the laser rod (whether gas filled or of the ruby type) a mirror or other type of reflecting surface is attached, so that the light resulting from the chemical reaction in the tube can be concentrated into a beam.

In a gas laser the process begins by the gas,—either carbon dioxide mixed with helium and nitrogen or a mixture of helium and neon—being excited electrically in an effect not dissimilar to that seen in an ordinary fluorescent light tube. As each gas molecule is excited and then later discharges its energy, a cascade reaction occurs along the entire length of the tube.

The mirrors focus the emitted packages of light along the axis of the tube into a beam which is emitted from one end of the tube.

A flexible lever similar to that use by a dentist is then attached to the laser allowing the light to be manipulated at the will of the surgeon.



A surgeon using a laser device in the operating theatre.

As a cutting tool a laser gives the surgeon fresh scope in exercising his skill.

The cells of the body are effectively small bags full of water. As the laser cuts the cells the water is raised from body temperature of 37 degrees to 100 degrees centigrade. The water then changes from water to steam at the same temperature. The energy is provided by the laser.

The laser is a quite different tool from the scalpel and the surgeon must choose the type which will give him either a good cutting edge with the secondary effect as a coagulator, or vice versa.

Two recent examples illustrate how the laser is being used to edge forward surgical techniques. The first was an operation conducted at the beginning of this year by Professor Ron Razin at the Rokah Hospital in Tel-Aviv, when he performed a circumcision on a 15-year-old haemophiliac boy.

The carbon dioxide laser was able to cut the skin while acting effectively as a coagulator to prevent uncontrollable bleeding.

Another surgical application which has highlighted some of the special charcteristics of the carbon dioxide laser is in the removal of tattoos. Skin grafting or acid treatment in the past has been the normal method used.

Last year a London hospital opened a clinic for the removal of tattoos, using a process similar to that for cell cutting. The skin is pierced by the laser and the ink of the tattoo is vaporised.

The laser's full potential has yet to be realized, but its usefulness in surgery has already been demonstrated by its modest though impressive performance to date.

Bill Johnstone

Business Diary: Men in the middle • Brandy snip

If the economic strategy of the Reagan administration seems confusing at times, do not be concerned—it seems to be by design. One could suspect that this is part of a deep Machiavellian approach to ensure that the press, public and Congress fail to gang up on the White House as the target keeps on moving.

Donald Regan, the Treasury Secretary, laments that his job is increasingly becoming one of referee. On one side is his new Under-secretary for Monetary Affairs, Dr Berryl Sprinkel, one of the most dogmatic true-blue monetarists ever to have entered the Treasury, and on the other side the Under-secretary for Tax and Economic Affairs, Dr Norman Ture, the advocate of supply-side economics.

But Regan's problems are nothing compared to those faced by President Reagan in the lap of a former Treasury Secretary, George Shultz, president of the Bechtel company. Shultz has just been named chairman of a special economic advisory board to the administration. The board members include Milton Friedman, whose monetarist views have never won much support from Dr Arthur Burns, the former central bank chief, who is also on the board.

Dr Arthur Laffer, whose supply-side theories are viewed with deep scepticism by Alan Greenspan, the former chairman of the council of economic advisers, is also on the board. So are such ardent ultra-conservative budget cutters as William Simon and Charls Walker, former Treasury Secretary and Deputy Secretary.



"If we can run the old Morris for another three years we should be able to replace it with a truly British Datsun."

● *George* Turnbull, who announced the closure of Linwood on Wednesday must now be regretting the choice he made three and a half years ago when he turned down the chairmanship of BL to help build a motor industry in Iran.

On his 15th birthday Turnbull signed indentures for a six-year engineering apprenticeship with Standard Motors, Coventry. When it became part of British Leyland he had progressed to become Standard's deputy chairman.

By 1973 he was managing director of the whole group, but within a few months he had a row with the then Sir Donald Stokes, the chairman, about a since discredited new centralized organization and walked out.

In the following year he surprised everyone by moving to South Korea to become vice-president of the Hyundai Motor Company.

When his three-year contract expired he returned with an enhanced reputation to be courted by the National Enterprise Board, then busily head-hunting a new chief executive for BL. Negotiations dragged on for the best part of three months, with Turnbull determined to write his own job brief and NEB chairman Sir Leslie Murphy trying to walk the tightrope between the job as seen by his masters in Whitehall and Turnbull's insistence on much greater freedom of action.

Then the Iranians appeared on the scene. They wanted a car production expert of Turnbull's experience and standing to switch the assembly of Chrysler's out-dated Hunter model to complete domestic manufacture.

The Hyundai contract had already made him wealthy, but the sort of money the Iranians were offering for one year would make him independent for life. Last night a colleague said: "That was really the crossroads for George. But for the once-in-a-lifetime offer from the Iranians he might have been sitting in Michael Edwardes's chair now".

With the Shah's position beginning to totter and his wife Marian yearning for United Kingdom life again Turnbull quit in 1978. Within a few months he was back in the industry, this time as head of Peugeot's newly acquired Chrysler UK operations.

● Britain's largest independent wine and spirits shipper, Matthew Clark, has just landed itself a notable success only to find the company swamped by rumour.

Martell, the cognac it has handled since the 1830s, may be the best selling brand in Britain, but until now it has not been number one with any of the major breweries.

No longer, since Bass, with more retail outlets than any other, has picked Martell to replace its former chosen premier brand of Remy Martin.

Uniforttunately for Matthew Clark, the company has now found itself surrounded by rumours in the trade of an imminent takeover by the vast brewing firm.

"Absolutely untrue", said Matthew Clark, director, Sam Gordon Clark. "There is no question of Bass taking us over or that Bass might be taking the whole of the Martell agency. It's purely a business arrangement."

By clinching the Bass deal, Matthew Clark has opened up a new market just in time for what, in the slow-moving world of cognac, is something of a cataclysmic event.

Martell is about to abandon its familiar three star bottles in Britain for a more up-market image. The result, a modern frosted bottle, will contain exactly the same cognac and be launched on an unsuspecting British public next week.

● Lloyds Bank increased its maritime charter portfolio yesterday with the unusual addition of a craft, which among other duties will act as an escort to the Royal Yacht Britannia.

In fact, it is likely to spend most of its time servicing navigational buoys and lights and providing accommodation for the annual coastal inspection of navigational aids by Trinity House.

Trinity House is chartering the vessel from Lloyds' equipment leasing subsidiary, in a deal which, the bank says, makes sense for both parties.

On delivery it will join a fleet of 12 owned by Lloyds, including bulk carriers and specialized vessels such as the British Rail ferry MV St Anselm.

Match-makers Bryant & May, producers of the England's Glory *series with jokey legends on the back, have revealed why the quips were becoming so boring. A few years ago all the old printing plates of the jokes were destroyed and the original stock of jokes were reduced to a mere 32. Then the company decided that it wanted some of the old jokes back again and appealed to philumenists, who have passed on boxes from their collections and so restored about 6,000 of the old jokes. Example —elephant to his first mouse: "Aren't you little"; mouse, offended: "I've been ill." Ah, well. . . .*

David Hewson

FINANCIAL NEWS

Stock markets

Equities firm on talk of Government 'U-turn'

Equities remained in good form yesterday supported by selective buying among the institutions amid talk that the Government was showing signs of making a "U-turn".

Business picked up after a quiet start, with most sectors extending their positions on overnight levels.

But jobbers claimed that shortages of stock were producing exaggerated gains and creating volatile conditions.

Interest had been rekindled by a statement the previous evening by Mr Francis Pym, Minister in charge of co-ordinating the Government's communications, who admitted that conditions forced adjustments in timing and tactics. While jobbers remained sceptical of a complete "U-turn" by the Government, most believed its approach was now becoming more flexible and this led to firmer conditions.

Nevertheless, most of the buying was again concentrated among the second-liners and recovery stocks, particularly among engineering, where dealers saw some active trade. Dealers now believe that the current climate will ensure a warm reception for British Aerospace next Wednesday.

Speculative buying was another contributory factor, with many investors still banking on a cut in MLR at 12.30 pm yesterday, despite earlier statements that they would have to wait until the Budget.

However, with MLR unchanged, a certain amount of profit-taking was inevitable and this was reflected in the *FT* Index, which closed 3.7 higher at 490.0, having been 4.2 higher at 3 pm.

Gilts, as expected, marked time in an indifferent market with the new tap Treasury, 12 per cent, 1986, making its debut at a discount of £1/16 over the opening price of £20. Investors have soaked up so much tap stock in recent weeks that an acute case of indigestion was overdue.

In longs, prices closed unchanged, having fluctuated in limits of around £¼, while in shorts, the unchanged MLR left minus signs averaging an £⅛.

Leading industrials experienced a firm session helped by full-year figures from Imperial Group where, despite recent speculation, the dividend was maintained and the shares rose 2p to 81p. Similar gains were seen in ICI at 294p, Beechams at 185p, Unilever at 458p, Distillers at 189p, and Dunlop at 65p. BOC International, with first-quarter figures out next week, hardened 2p to 119p, while Glaxo hardened 4p to 268p and Fisons rallied 5p to 123p.

Lively business was recorded among engineering shares, particularly among second-liners, where F. Pratt leapt 20p to 90p following attempts at a "dawn raid" by brokers Capel Cure Myers. Selective interest also stimulated Spear and Jackson 5p to 90p, Expanded Metal 6p to 55p, Pegler-Hattersley 6p to 150p and Westland Aircraft 3p to 131p, the latter following recent bullish remarks by the chairman. But disappointing interim figures left William Cook 3p down at 10p, while Dowty Group advanced 22p to 215p following its interim statement.

Expect news early next week from Moss Engineering, whose shares have come up sharply from a 77p low to close yesterday 2p better at 97p. Word is that they have received an approach which could lead to an offer. The group reported £1m worth of new business before Christmas.

Among the majors, GKN climbed 4p to 150p, Tubes 3p to 186p, Vickers 3p to 152p, while Metal Box rose 6p to 186p on the back of a recent circular from brokers Laing and Cruickshank.

Selective buying in a thin market drew attention to stores. Burton hardened 3p to 108p on talk of a brokers' circular and GUS "A" advanced 5p to 490p, while Marks and Spencer closed unchanged at 124p—just 2p short of the "high" for the year. But speculative attention lifted Peters Stores another 6p to 126p.

The agreed bid terms from Hunting Gibson, in shipping, left Stag Line 13p lower at 420p, but directed attention to such stocks as Common Brothers, 15p to 310p, Walter Runciman 11p to 140p and London and Overseas Freighters 1p to 39p.

Elsewhere, on the bid front, Robertson Foods jumped 7p to 161p awaiting developments in the approach from Avana Group, up 8p at 218p. But United Dominions Trust slipped 11p to 56p on news that Lloyds & Scottish was withdrawing from the race. Shares of Lloyds & Scottish expanded 6p to 154p.

The "big four" banks continued to rally on the back of a recent brokers' recommendation, but business was described as "squeezy". Barclays edged ahead 6p to 411p, National Westminster 6p to 381p and Midland 7p to 340p. Lloyds, which opens the reporting season next week, was 6p better at 381p.

In textiles, speculative attention was good for 14p rise in Fothergill and Harvey to 122p and 7p to 82p in Textured Jersey.

Equity turnover for February 11 was £109.933m (bargains, 16,503). Active stocks, according to the Exchange Telegraph, were GEC, European Ferries, Blue Circle, Crest Nicholson, GKN, Allied Breweries, Beecham and Shell.

Traded options: Total contracts made were 1,142. Commercial Union attracted 28, GEC some 164, Cons Gold, 5, BBL, 31, BP, 43 and Imperial took 561.

Traditional options: Dealers: reported quiet activity. Calls were made in London Investment Trust at 2½p, ICL at 7½p, Duport at 3½p, Montagu Meyer at 8½p and FNFC at 3½p. A put was arranged in FNFC.

Latest results

Company Int or Fin	Sales £m	Profits £m	Earnings per share	Div pence	Pay date	Year's total
S. C. Banks (I)	32(26.55)	0.69(0.56)	14.89(11.27)	2(1.75)	9/4	—(5.25†)
Cardinal Inv (F)	—(—)	1.16(1.05)	4.9(4.65)	2.8(2.5)	1/4	4.5(4.38)
Wm. Cook (I)	2.41(2.24)	0.14(0.28)	1.4(2.78)	0.3(0.6)	9/4	—(1.3)
Centrovincial (I)	—(—)	0.62(0.51)	—(—)	1.33(1)	10/4	—(2.0)
Dowty (I)	160(149)	19.1(17.4)	10.5(11.7)	2.2(2)	31/3	—(4.5)
R. M. Douglas (I)	52.7(47.4)	1.12(1.15)	8.0(6.7)	1.1(1.1)	8/4	—(4.5)
Drayton Far East (F)	—(—)	0.46(0.31)	—(—)	0.8(0.7)	3/4	1.2(1.1)
Guildhall Prop (I)	—(—)	0.5(0.49)	—(—)	0.7(0.7)	1/4	—(4.65)
Gen Funds (F)	—(—)	0.52*(0.41*)	—(—)	5.2(4.6)	9/4	7.7(6.9)
Hampson Inds (I)	8.37(7.93)	0.21(0.32)	0.48(0.72)	0.25(0.25¶)	12/3	—(0.79)
Imperial Group (F)	3,929(3,621)	126(142)	11.3(18.1)	4.5(4.5)	1/4	7.25(7.25)
Drayton Com Inv (F)	—(—)	3.41(2.78)	—(—)	5(4.68)	3/4	7(6)
Lancs & Lon Inv (F)	—(—)	0.17(0.14)	—(—)	2.6(2.2)	31/3	2.6(2.2)
Wm. Ransom (I)	1.34(1.19)	0.15(0.23)	5.07(7.38)	1.5(1.42)	8/4	—(5.6)
River & Merc Tst (F)	—(—)	2.93(2.49)	15.6(13.7)	10(8)	27/3	15(12.86)
River Plate & Gn (F)	—(—)	0.87(0.78)	11.05(9.91)	8(7)	27/3	10.5(9)
Scots Ag Inds (F)	92.1(88.8)	4.44(5.71)	35.8(36.9)	9(9)	3/4	14.7(14.7)
Thermal Syn (F)	15.03(12.6)	1.4(1.37)	21.9(16.9)	4(4)	3/4	7(7)
Tribune Inv (F)	—(—)	1.45(1.27)	3.45(3.01)	1.9(1.4)	9/4	2.7(2.33)
H. Young (I)	1.58(1.63)	0.02‡(0.006)	—(—)	—(—)	—	—(—)

Dividends in this table are shown net of tax on pence per share. Elsewhere in Business News dividends are shown on a gross basis. To establish gross multiply the net dividend by 1.428. Profits are shown pretax and earnings are net. *Revenue after tax; †For 11 months; ‡Loss; ¶Adjusted for scrip issue.

Dawn raid on F. Pratt fails for lack of stock

By Margareta Pagano and Peter Wilson-Smith

A dawn raid to pick up 15 per cent of the shares in F. Pratt Engineering is believed to have failed yesterday because the stockbrokers were unable to buy sufficient stock.

It is understood that brokers Capel, Cure, Meyers, were instructed by unknown clients to buy 14.9 per cent in the market. The shares, which have seen large rises in recent weeks, opened at 70p. CCM are believed to have bid at 84p and to have collected only about 5 per cent of the equity, or 300,000 shares, before the price moved higher to close at 90p. CCM was unavailable for comment last night. Rumours point to Swiss clients.

But earlier in the morning, Morgan Grenfell, the bankers called in by F. Pratt when the share price started moving last month, issued a statement on behalf of the company. This attempted to explain the recent movements, but was not thought to have any connection with the market raid later in the day.

It suggested that the share price movements may be due to approaches F. Pratt has received from parties who are interested in purchasing the group's subsidiary, Hamblin & Wingate.

Mr David Hiller, Pratt's company secretary, said last night that they had no knowledge of the raid at the time of the statement, nor who is behind the raid. He was unable to say whether it was possibly linked with the approaches for Hamblin.

Hunting Gibson wins struggle for control of Stag

By Peter Wilson-Smith

Hunting Gibson has won the battle for control of Stag Line, the North Shields shipping group, with an agreed 430p a share cash bid valuing Stag Line at £5.3m. The directors of Stag, together with their merchant bankers Keyser Ullmann, have recommended the offer.

Directors and other shareholders holding 198,000 shares are accepting, and Ropner Holdings has undertaken to accept in respect of its 369,761 shares. Together with the 73,000 shares which it owns through a subsidiary Hunting Gibson now has 51.9 per cent of Stag.

Hunting Gibson's latest offer, which has finally won acceptance from the Stag board, is over one-fifth higher than its opening bid of 355p a share. This was subsequently topped by a rival bid from Turnbull Scott, the small United Kingdom shipping group, which *offered 400p a share.*

Turnbull Scott had estimated Stag's net asset value at 410p a share, however in a letter to shareholders Stag said that the group's net asset value, after estimating for contingent taxation, was materially higher.

In the two weeks before Hunting Gibson opened the bidding in mid-January, Stag Line's shares had risen from 205p to 255p on takeover speculation. Yesterday they eased back from an all-time high of 432p to 420p.

Hunting Gibson will be offering a loan note alternative to cash and the conditions attached to the bid include Hunting Gibson getting shareholders' approval for the deal at an extraordinary meeting.

The Office of Fair Trading has said that there will not be a reference to the Monopolies Commission.

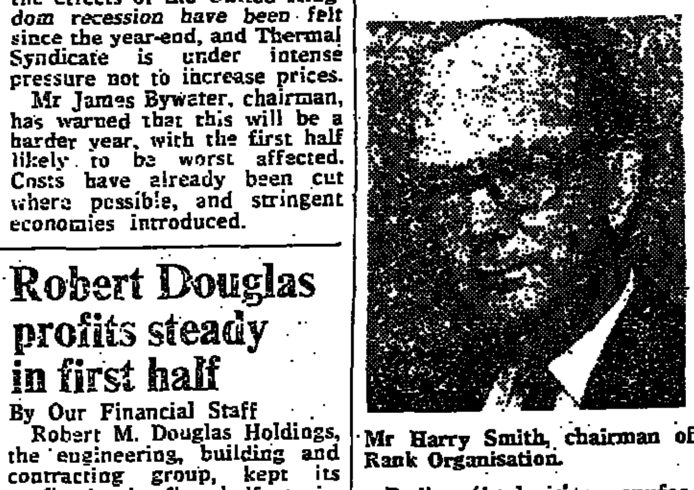
Stag has four ships, three of *which are deep sea dry cargo* carriers and the fourth is a coasting vessel. Hunting Gibson is involved in ship owning and management and ship and air broking. It also has a stake in the oil industry through its associate Hunting Petroleum.

Helped by the upturn in dry cargo rates, Stag Line returned to profit in the year to October 31 after two years of losses. From losses of £835,000 it recovered to profits of £214,000 before tax, on turnover up from £2.52m to £3.90m.

Rank sees progress this year

By Our Financial Staff

Mr Harry Smith, chairman of the Rank Organization, is confidently expecting an improvement in the group's trading profits this year, following the closure of loss-making interests. *In the 1980 report and accounts* he reveals provisions of £18.8m on the closure, since the October year-end, of Rank Toshiba and Rank Radio International alone, out of gross closure costs last year of £24.9m.



Mr Harry Smith, chairman of Rank Organisation.

Radio and television manufacturing operations lost £4.2m last year, while film distribution and production losses deepened from £1.56m to £3.05m.

The group has published current cost accounts which show a profit of £14m, down from £25.8m, against the historic cost profit of £37.2m—itself down from £43.8m. But after taking extraordinary closure costs into account, the CCA figures show a £4.3m loss, Mr Smith says.

Rank is now being restructured, to form a smaller number of larger divisions. Meanwhile, cost-cutting exercises, and profit improvements from Australia and Rank City Wall, minus the drain of the closed businesses, are expected to lead to a better profit performance this year.

Borrowings have been further reduced, to £194.4m net of £10.6m cash, against £204.6m net of cash at the previous year-end.

Mr Smith's statement makes it clear that the disposal of activities which fail to achieve profit targets will again be a priority this year.

Collapse in demand hits SAI

By Catherine Gunn

A change in farmers' buying habits last autumn caused a collapse in demand for fertilizer and feeds, reducing the profits of Scottish Agricultural Industries by 22 per cent to £4.45m for the year to December 31. The dividend has been maintained at 21.17p gross. On a current cost basis profits fell to just £188,000.

Normally farmers stock up with fertilizers in the autumn but last year the high cost of borrowing and tighter margins on their own business led to destocking and delaying of purchases. SAI is hoping that in the spring, farmers will buy the fertilizers they crossed off their autumn shopping lists.

What happens to this year's volume and profits at SAI depends on how soon the normal buying pattern is re-established. Compensatory buying this spring coupled with normal autumn demand could mean a good year for the company, which is 62.4 per cent owned by ICI. But a repeat of 1980's weak autumn demand would leave profits unchanged or worse.

Fertilizers are SAI's leading market. Group sales came out at £92.1m, an increase of 3.6 per cent in sterling terms though down in volume. Nitram which the group started to manufacture the previous year provides about a quarter of fertilizer sales and suffered the same weak demand as the rest. Feeds showed a similar pattern for much the same reasons.

SAI acts as agent for ICI agrochemicals in Scotland and saw a decline in volume on this business too.

An extraordinary credit of £691,000 reflects stock relief provided for the previous year but now released. Mr Henry Fitzpatrick, *the finance director* said that borrowings were little altered from the previous year-end figure of £8.23m while interest costs were about £200,000 higher. Borrowings peak in December but for part of the year SAI has a net cash position.

Margins came under strain thanks to the volume drop. The strength of sterling offset part of the rising cost of raw materials but prices were not raised enough to offset other cost increases for fear of attracting extra imports.

Bank Base Rates

ABN Bank	14%
Barclays	14%
BCCI	14%
Consolidated Crdts	14%
C. Hoare & Co	*14%
Lloyds Bank	14%
Midland Bank	14%
Nat Westminster	14%
Rossminster	14%
TSB	14%
Williams and Glyn's	14%

* 7 day deposit on sums of £10,000 and under 11½%, up to £50,000 12%, over £50,000 12½%.

Meekatharra replies to government

By Margareta Pagano

Meekatharra Minerals, suspended on the Perth and London Stock Exchange on Wednesday, yesterday took the initiative with a letter to the South Australian Minister of Mining over a disputed 2,400m tons of coal reserves.

The row between Meekatharra and the Australian Government is over coal production estimates in the Arckiringa Basin of South Australia and an independent survey team has been called in. Mr Don O'Callaghan, Meekatharra's chairman, in a letter to the Minister of Mines and Energy, Mr Roger Goldsworthy, *asks whether the 2,400m* tons reported should be "assumed" or "inferred".

Clearly, Mr O'Callaghan says, there is a difference of opinion as to the category into which the coal reserves should be placed. "Our consultants con*firm the view* that assumed reserves is the correct category. Suggestions that the reserves are 'inferred' are misleading."

A meeting is planned for February 18 between the Director-General and Meekatharra.

The shares, which are quoted on the London Stock Exchange, were suspended at the company's request at A$7.50.

M. J. H. Nightingale & Co. Limited
27/28 Lovat Lane London EC3R 8EB Telephone 01-621 1212

The Over-the-Counter Market

1980/81 High	Low	Company	Price	Ch'ge	Gross Div (p)	Yld %	P/E
75	39	Airsprung Group	63	—	6.7	10.6	5.7
44	21	Armitage & Rhodes	41	—	1.4	3.4	16.9
192	92½	Bardon Hill	190	—	9.7	5.1	7.1
98	88	Deborah Services	95	—	5.5	5.8	4.7
126	88	Frank Horsell	109	—	6.4	5.9	3.4
110	52	Frederick Parker	52	—	11.0	21.2	2.4
110	74	George Blair	74	—	3.1	4.2	—
110	59	Jackson Group	105	−1	6.9	6.5	4.0
124	103	James Burrough	120	—	7.9	6.6	9.8
334	244	Robert Jenkins	330	—	31.3	9.5	—
53	50	Scruttons "A"	53	—	5.3	10.0	3.8
224	215	Torday Limited	216	—	15.1	7.0	3.7
23	10	Twinlock Ord	12	−½	—	—	—
90	69	Twinlock 15% ULS	70	—	15.0	21.4	—
56	35	Unilock Holdings	39	+1	3.0	7.7	6.0
103	81	Walter Alexander	101xd	+1	5.7	5.6	5.6
263	181	W. S. Yeates	263	+1	12.1	4.6	4.3

Briefly

Tribune Investment Trust: Pretax revenue for 1980, £1.45m (£1.27m). Total dividend, 3.85p (3.32p, including non-recurring payment).

Drayton Commercial Investment: Pretax revenue for 1980, £3.41m *(£2.78m). Total dividend, 10p* gross (8.57p).

Lancashire & London Investment Trust: Pretax income for 1980, £175,000 (£141,000). Total payment, gross, 3.75p (3.14p).

Tyzack: Company has acquired William Cooper (Hand Tools), a Sheffield company carrying on business as manufacturers of high quality paint scrapers and decorators' tools.

Cardinal Investment Trust: Pretax revenue for 1980, £1.16m (£1.05m). Total dividend, 6.42p gross (6.25p last time, including special of 0.47p).

William Ransom & Son: Turnover for half-year to September 30, 1980, £1.34m (£1.19m). Pretax profit, £158,000 (£230,000). Interim dividend, gross, raised from 2.03p to 2.14p.

River and Mercantile Trust: One-for-one scrip issue proposed. Pretax revenue for 1980, £2.93m (2.49m). Total gross dividend, 21.42p (18.37p last time, including special of 1.22p).

Centrovincial Estates: Pretax revenue for half-year to September 30, 1980, £621,000 (£517,000). Interim dividend, gross, raised from 1.42p to 1.9p. Group's net income from properties for the full year will show an increase of 10 per cent on 1979-80.

Guildhall Property: Gross income for half year to December 31, 1980 £592,000 (£572,000). Pretax profit £509,000 (£492,000). Board anticipate that the full-year's results will show an improvement. Interim 1.07p gross (1.07p). Board expect to make a small increase in the final.

Second City Properties: Control Securities has acquired a further *25,000 ordinary shares increasing* holding to 1.58m (10.51 per cent).

London Shop Property Trust: Following previously amended revaluation of properties, a surplus of £8.26m has been struck. This surplus amounts to about 67.6p per share (or 56.1p per share fully diluted).

River Plate and General Inv Tst: Gross revenue for 1980 £1.49m (£1.35m). Net revenue £873,000 (£784,000). Eps 11.05p (9.91p). Nav 298.12p (221.69p). Proposed 100 per cent scrip issue in deferred shares. Final dividend 15p (12.8p) gross.

Hanson sells stake in CMT

Hanson Trust has sold its 13.3 per cent stake in Central Manufacturing and Trading group to Caparo for 55p a share, 30p less than it paid for most of the holding.

Earlier this week, Caparo, after two months' deliberations, topped Hanson's 49p a share bid for CMT with a 55p a share offer which values the West Midlands conglomerate at £14.5m. This purchase from Hanson has increased Caparo's stake from 21.5 per cent to 34.8 per cent.

As Hanson's offer lapses today, Caparo's offer will now go unconditional when it obtains more than 50 per cent.

US sales keep Thermal ahead

By Catherine Gunn

Falling demand for Thermal Syndicate's products in the United Kingdom last year was partly offset by a substantial increase in volume sales in America. That enabled Thermal Syndicate to push up its sales from £12.6m to £15m in the year to October 31, though profits rose only 1.74 per cent to £1.4m. The 10p gross dividend has been maintained. The current year is proving more difficult.

Demand for consumer pro*ducts followed* the British economy down sharply last April and hit sales of Thermal Syndicate's insulating materials and elements for kettles and cookers. But in America the drive to reduce oil-fired heating costs boosted demand for electric fires. This meant that Thermal Syndicate exported more parts than expected, in spite of the strong pound.

Other American operations did well and higher stock levels there reflected real expansion, Dr Gordon Hetherington, group managing director said yesterday. Higher borrowings reflect higher stocks and the acquisition of Refractory Welding & Fabrication Inc, which made a small contribution to profits before the interest costs on its borrowed purchase price. Group borrowings rose from £186,000 to £767,000 and peaked in the early spring.

Elsewhere across the group the effects of the United King*dom recession have been* felt since the year-end, and Thermal Syndicate is under intense pressure not to increase prices.

Mr James Bywater, chairman, has warned that this will be a harder year, with the first half likely to be worst affected. Costs have already been cut where possible, and stringent economies introduced.

Hampson 'delighted' despite fall in profits

Although reporting lower half-time profits, West Bromwich-based Hampson Industries is not down hearted.

Mr John Wardle, the chairman, tells shareholders that he is "delighted" with the results, which show pretax profits down from £321,000 to £217,000 for the half-year to September 30.

Turnover rose from £7.93m to £8.37m. The board expects *to see a second-half year very* comparable to the first-half's results. "I think many companies would be very pleased if they could say the same," the chairman comments.

The interim dividend is being effectively maintained at 0.35p gross. Hampson cover engineering, manufacturing and industrial cleaning, etc.

year's result is in prospect.

The necessary steps to deal with both the short-term situation and its longer term effects are being taken. He is confident that the group will emerge *in* good shape to meet the changed demands of the future.

Bigger interim from Sidney C. Banks

Having achieved record results in 1979-80, Sidney C. Banks, Bedfordshire-based grain merchants and seed specialists, is still advancing. On turnover up from £26.55m to £32.09m in the half-year to October 31, 1980, pretax profits rose from £569,000 to £693,000. In the 11-month period to April 30, 1980, *pretax profits reached a record* £867,000.

Raising the interim dividend from 2.5p to 2.85p gross, the chairman, Mr J. P. U. Burr, feels confident that the full year's results should exceed 1979-80.

Serck expects poor first-half results

The worldwide recession continues to affect all of Serck's major businesses, and in some sectors it has worsened in recent months, Mr R. G. Martin, *the chairman, told the* annual meeting. Demand for many of the group's traditional products has therefore remained very depressed, and a poor half-year's result is in prospect.

No funds remitted yet for Dhami Holdings

As the talks over the alleged tax liabilities of Dhamai Tea in Bangladesh have not yet been resolved, it has not been possible for the board of Dhami Holdings to obtain a remittance of any part of the company's funds in Bangladesh.

The board expects that total *income for the year will be sim*ilar to that of 1979, and believes that the consolidated results will show a profit.

Sabah Agricultural—Malakoff Rubber

Malakoff Rubber, the Malaysian plantation company, has agreed to sell 82 per cent of its equity to the main shareholders in Sabah Agricultural, another plantation company. The terms are one Sabah share for 150 new Malakoff shares. Malakoff will issue 1.95m new shares to make the sale. Sabah's sole asset is 51 per cent of Sabah Agricultural (Palm Oil).

Transport group up

Pretax profits of Transport Development of Australia rose slightly in the six months to December 31 to $A1.21m (£605,000) from $A1.19m on turnover of $A14.5m., against $A12.2m.

Earnings a share were unchanged at 8.8 cents and the *interim dividend has been* maintained at 4 cents.

The company said that the lower level of activity had continued into the second half.

Robert Douglas profits steady in first half

By Our Financial Staff

Robert M. Douglas Holdings, the engineering, building and contracting group, kept its profits in the first half at virtually the same level as last *year and indicated the full year* result would be comparable with 1980's £1.7m.

Pretax profits were £1.12m compared with last year's £1.15m while turnover rose from £47.4m to £52.8m in the six months to September 30. Trading profit rose from £2.56m to £2.62m but interest received, included in that figure, was down from £173,000 to £91,000.

Mr John Douglas, chairman, said that the United Kingdom construction division had been helped by the settlement of certain accounts and an improvement in profitability at site level. But the specialist contracting division had been less fortunate.

"The construction division will again benefit from a further contribution from Middle *East operations in the second* half", he added.

The construction equipment and plant divisions also performed profitably and there was an increased contribution from mineral supply operations. The interim dividend has been maintained at 1.57p gross.

Business appointments

Mr Peter Cunliffe to head pharmaceuticals body

Mr Peter Cunliffe, chairman of the pharmaceuticals division of Imperial Chemical Industries, has been elected as the next president of the Association of the British Pharmaceutical Industry.

Mr M. H. R. Thompson has joined the board of Lloyds and Scottish.

Mr Robert Plastow has been made senior vice-president (banking) at National Westminster Bank's executive office North America in New York.

Mr J. M. Magowan has recently become chairman of CU Fire Marine and General Insurance Company.

Mr Terence P. Lyons, executive director (personnel) of Williams and Glyn's Bank, has been made a member of the Manpower Services Commission.

Mr Bruce H. Cross is the new *managing director of* Petrosun Limited a London-based subsidiary of Sun Company Inc, USA.

Mr J. Alan Sheppard has been made managing director of METCO Limited, following the naming of Mr J. G. B. Stiels as European regional director for the International division of METCO.

Mr Peter Cooper has become an executive director of British Steam Specialities Group.

Mr Michael Holmes has been named associate director and group head of Charles Barker CBC from April 1.

Mr R. A. Webster, managing director, EMI Film and Theatre Corporation, and Mr B. Tesler, managing director, London Weekend Television, have joined the board of management of the Services Kinema Corporation.

Losses loom as William Cook slashes dividend

Shares of steel founders, William Cook & Sons (Shef*field) dropped 3p to a new low* of 10p yesterday as the group gave a warning of substantial losses this year and no final dividend. Last year Cook paid a gross 1p making a total of 1.857p.

Mr Andrew McTurk Cook, *chairman, said that since the* half year to the end of September, there has been a further deterioration in the state of trade and it would be unrealistic to entertain any hopes of a marked up-turn in the order book before the year end in March.

Cook's have halved the interim dividend to 0.428p, on profits which dropped 50 per cent to £146,000.

Mixed results from RTZ group

By Michael Prest
Mining Correspondent

Mixed fortunes last year have been reported by members of the Rio Tinto-Zinc group. Conzinc Rio Tinto Australia reported a 30 per cent increase in net earnings to A$175m (£87.5m), while Palabora, the South African copper mine 39 per cent owned by RTZ, saw profits fall by R1.6m to R43.7m (£24.3m).

Both companies said that very low metal prices could result in reduced profits and dividends this year. CRA paid a final dividend of 10 cents, making 19 cents for the year compared with 15 cents in 1979. Palabora's final was 25 cents, an increase of 10 cents, totalling 110 cents against 125.

CRA's earnings a share grew from 38 cents to 47.4 cents. A good part of the improvement came, however, from higher metal prices in 1980 and bigger earnings contributions from Hammersley, the iron ore mine, and the inclusion of all the earnings from Kembla Coal and Coke.

Revenue from sales to external customers rose by [illegible] per cent. Nevertheless, the second half saw a contraction in CRA's earnings, which the company says "is expected to continue during the first half of 1981 and possibly longer".

Palabora, which is a very big open pit producer of low grade copper, said that without a "substantial improvement" in short-term copper prices this year's profits and dividends would be lower. Palabora is believed to need about £1,000 a tonne to earn the required return. Present prices are nearer £670 a tonne.

International

Rio Tinto Mining (Zimbabwe) 56 per cent owned by RTZ, increased pretax profits to Z$7.77m (£5.18m) from Z$5m. Poor results from the Empress and Perseverance mines were partly offset by Tinto Industries, which made operating profits of Z$633,000, an increase of Z$586,000.

Saint-Gobain optimistic

Saint-Gobain-Pont-a-Mousson, the French building materials group, said its consolidated turnover could rise to 70,000m francs (£6,000m) in 1983 at current prices from 43,000m francs last year.

It said that the figure, which was *contained in its three-year* plan up to 1983, was not a firm forecast and could vary depending on changes within the group and monetary and economic trends.

The forecast includes sales of C11-Honeywell Bull, in which Saint-Gobain took a 53 per cent stake last year, but not Olivetti in which it has a 30 per cent stake.

*Saint-Gobain said group in*dustrial activity would remain steady this year and then improve sharply with a similar trend in profitability, which should rise to 25 per cent of capital investments in 1983, from a normal level of 20 per cent.

This rise would be needed for the group to maintain and develop its position in world markets, it said.

Profitability at its French plants, apart from information systems, had improved after the removal of French price controls and improved productivity, but it remained below the level in the rest of the group, it added.

Record year for ITT

International Telephone and Telegraph expects to report record sales and earnings for 1980, Mr Rand V. Araskog, chairman, president and chief executive, said yesterday.

ITT'S consolidated earnings for 1980 are expected to be about $6.12 (£2.63) per common equivalent share, a 130 per cent increase over 1979. The 1980 results include a gain of [illegible] cents per share on the sale of Canadian interests, while 1979 results included a one-time special charge of $2.30 a share relating to the closedown of a pulp mill in Quebec.

Mr Araskog said that while 1981 operating performance was expected to be better than last year, improvement on the 1980 reported results would be difficult to achieve.

MARKET REPORTS

Commodities

COPPER was easier.—Afternoon.—Cash wire bars, £765-66.50 a metric ton; three months, £786.75. Sales, 9,050. Cash cathodes, £764-65; three months, £778-79. Sales, 100 tons. Morning.—Cash wire bars, £770.50-71; three months, £793-93.50. Settlement, £771. Sales, 1,380 tons (mainly carries). Cash cathodes, £772-73; three months, £782-83. Settlement, £773. Sales, 835 tons.

TIN was steady.—Afternoon.—Standard cash, £5,860-70 a tonne; three months, £6,010-20. Sales, 215 tonnes (mainly carries). High grade, cash £5,860-70; three months, £6,010-20. Sales, nil tonnes. Morning.—Standard cash, £5,880-85; three months, £6,035-40. Settlement, £5,885. Sales, 820 tonnes. High grade, cash £5,860-85; three months, £6,035-40. Settlement, £5,885. Sales, 820 tonnes (mainly carries). Singapore tin ex-works, SM1,80 a picul.

LEAD was barely steady.—Afternoon.—Cash £291.50-92 per tonne; three months £301.50-02. Sales, 1,550 tonnes. Morning.—Cash £295.75-96; three months £301.50-05. Settlement 296. Sales, 3,850 tonnes.

ZINC was steady.—Afternoon.—Cash £307.50-08.50 per tonne; three months £320-20.50. Sales, 4,400 tonnes (about half carries). Morning.—Cash £308.50-09; three months £320-21. Settlement, 309. Sales, 2,500 tonnes.

PLATINUM was at £205.50 ($473.50) troy ounce.

SILVER was easy.—Bullion market (fixing levels).—Spot 560.90p per troy ounce (United States cents equivalent, 1301); three months 577.75p (1371.50c); six months, 603.70p (1409.50c); one year, 651.70p (1027c). London Metal Exchange.—Afternoon.—Cash 542-43p; three months 558-58.50p. Sales, 75 lots of 10,000 troy ounces each. Morning.—Cash 551-59p; three months, 575-75.5p. Settlement 559p. Sales, 1 lots (about half carries).

ALUMINIUM was easier.—Afternoon.—Cash, £625-25 per tonne; three months, £656-58.50. Sales, 7,825 tonnes. Morning.—Cash £627.50-28; three months, £645-45.50. Settlement, 628. Sales, 3,025 tonnes (about half carries).

NICKEL was steady.—Afternoon.—Cash £2,700-05 per tonne; three months, £2,675-80. Sales, 48 tonnes. Morning.—Cash £2,695-97; three months £2,675-80. Settlement, £2,705. Sales, 126 tonnes.

RUBBER was quiet (pence per kilo).—March, 56.50-57.50; April, 57.90-58.40; April/June, 59.10-59.90; July/Sept, 62.50-62.60; Oct/Dec, 65.40-65.60; Jan/March, 68.50-68.70; April/June, 71.30-71.40; July/Sept, 74.40-74.50; Oct/Dec, 77.10-77.20. Sales, 55 lots at five tonnes; 117 at 15.

RUBBER PHYSICALS was quiet.—(all pence per kilo).—Spot, 56.25-57.50; March, 60.75-61.50; April, 61.25-61.75.

COFFEE.—ROBUSTAS (£ per tonne).—March, 985-86; May, 1,002-04; July, 1,012-14; Sept, 1,028-30; Nov, 1,051-55; Jan, 1,035-54; March, 1,0300-20. Sales, 1,376 lots including 5 options.

COCOA was barely steady (£ per metric ton).—March, 820-830; May, 861-65; July, 884-885; Sept, 912-913; Dec, 942-943; March, 967-968; May, 977-985. Sales, 5,305 lots.

SUGAR.—The London daily price of "raws" was £10 higher at £240; the "whites" price was £7 higher at £305. Futures were irregular (£ per tonne).—March, 277.00-77.50; May, 274.91-75.00; Aug, 274.10-74.50; Oct, 259.00-60.05; Jan, 248.50-50.00; March, 248.00-50.00; May, 247.50-48.00. Sales, 1,000 lots. ISA prices (Feb 11): daily 25.80c; 15-day average 25.27c.

SOYABEAN MEAL was quiet (£ per tonne).—April, 121.00-22.00; June, 121.50-22.60; Aug, 125.50-27.50; Oct, 127.10-27.50; Dec, 127.00-30.50; Feb, 126.00-30.00. Sales, 59 lots.

WOOL (cents per kilo).—NZ Crossbreds No 2 contract was steady: March, 357-359; May, 358-362; Aug, 360-365; Oct, 370-372; Dec, 376-377; Jan, 377-378; March, 381-382; May, 382-384; Aug, 385-386. Sales, 56 lots.

GRAIN (The Baltic).—WHEAT.—Canadian western red spring No 1 13½ per cent was unquoted; US dark northern spring No 2 14 per cent, March, £110.25 trans-shipment east coast; US hard winter 13½ per cent, March £101, April, £101.65; trans-shipment east coast. EEC was unquoted: English feed fob March, £112.50-£112.75.

MAIZE: US French, Feb, £135.00 rests, trans-shipment east coast; S African yellow March-April, £87.50.

BARLEY: English feed fob April, £102. (All per tonne cif UK unless stated.)

London Grain Futures Market (Gafta). EEC origin.—BARLEY was irregular. March, £95.45; May, £99.00; Sept, £95.80; Nov, £97.50; Jan, £101.40. Sales: 265 lots.

WHEAT was irregular. March, £107.10; May, £110.65; July, £115.00; Sept, £98.80; Nov, £102.60; Jan, £106.45. Sales: 171 lots.

Home-Grown Cereals Authority.—Location ex-farm spot prices:

	Other milling WHEAT	Feed WHEAT	Feed BARLEY
S East	—	£104.40	£94.50
S West	—	£103.70	£96.50
W Midlands	—	£104.50	—
N West	£108.40	£105.30	£95.60

MEAT COMMISSION.—Average fatstock prices at representative markets Feb 12. GB cattle 85.65p per kg lw (+1.35); UK sheep 160.78p per kg est dcw (+5.98); GB pigs 68.78p per kg lw (+1.55). England and Wales: Cattle numbers up 12.0 per cent, average price 86.09p (+1.47); Sheep numbers down 7.8 per cent, average price 165.67p (+6.59); Pig numbers up 10.5 per cent, average price 68.78p (+1.55). Scotland: Cattle numbers up 3.0 per cent, average price 84.29p (+0.86); Sheep numbers up 17.2 per cent, average price 154.99p (+7.06).

POTATOES (Gafta).—Feb, £63.50; April, £58.10; Nov, £55.90. Sales, 139 (all of 40 tonnes each).

EEC group urges farm price rises

The European Parliament Liberal Group has attacked suggestions that the EEC's farm policy needs urgent reform and has urged farm price increases of 15 per cent for 1981.

The EEC Commission is due to make its final review of possible farm price rises today and informed sources said it will propose average increases of about 8 per cent. The EEC farm lobby has been pressing for almost double this amount.

A prominent French member of the 39-strong Liberal Group, M Charles Delatte, said too much attention was being paid to the 70 per cent farm spending share of the EEC budget, and too little to the need to maintain farmers' incomes in the face of inflation.

Mr Gaston Thorn, the president of the EEC Commission, has told the assembly that increased taxes on farmers producing surpluses would form an essential part of the Commission's proposals for budget reform, to be put forward by June.

The EEC's Common Agricultural Policy (CAP) guarantees community farmers minimum prices for their products. Community ministers and officials have attacked it consistently over the past year for swallowing too large a proportion of EEC funds and supporting surplus production.

Discount market

In a situation where credit was hunning to surplus, the bank of England took excess liquidity out of the system yesterday by selling a moderate quantity of Treasury bills both to banks and house. In the afternoon, a swing on the Exchequer accounts directed money into the market, though the clearing banks seemed not very active. By the close, balances were answering to 12¾ per cent.

Foreign exchange report

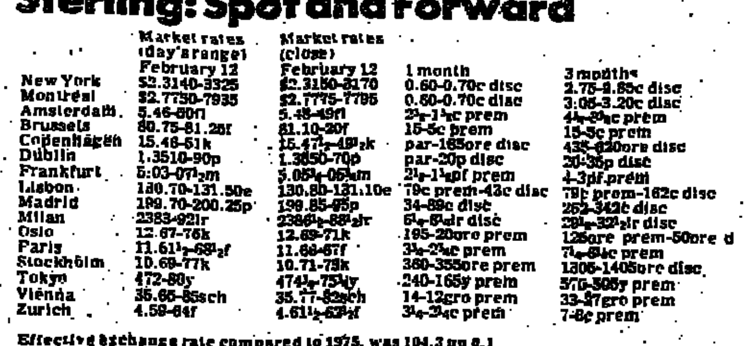
Higher United States interest rates drove the dollar forward again on foreign exchange markets yesterday. The 2 per cent rise in United States retail sales last month sparked a fresh advance in Eurodollar rates, lifting the dollar to its highest levels for several years in terms of a number of Continental currencies.

However, the market was very thin in view of the New York holiday.

Sterling fared very much better than EMS currencies, but even so finished 215 points lower against the dollar at $2.3160, after a "low" on the day of $2.3140. But, with MLR unchanged at 14 per cent and expected to remain so at least until the Budget, the pound held a firm line against the Continentals, hence a rise of 0.1 to 104.3 on the "effective" exchange-rate index.

The German mark was again very vulnerable and probably required further Bundesbank support, although there was no central bank intervention at the Frankfurt "fixing".

Sterling: Spot and Forward



	Market rates (day's range) February 12	Market rates (close) February 12	1 month	3 months
New York	$2.3140-3325	$2.3150-3170	0.60-0.70c disc	2.75-2.85c disc
Montreal	$2.7750-7935	$2.7775-7795	0.60-0.70c disc	3.05-3.20c disc
Amsterdam	5.46-50fl	5.48-49fl	2½-1½c prem	4½-3½c prem
Brussels	80.75-81.25f	81.10-20f	15-5c prem	15-5c prem
Copenhagen	15.46-51k	15.47½-48½k	par-165ore disc	435-620ore disc
Dublin	1.3510-90p	1.3650-70p	par-20p disc	20-35p disc
Frankfurt	5.03-07½m	5.05¾-06¾m	2½-1½pf prem	4-3pf prem
Lisbon	130.70-131.50e	130.80-131.10e	79c prem-43c disc	79c prem-162c disc
Madrid	199.70-200.25p	199.85-95p	34-89c disc	252-342c disc
Milan	2383-92lr	2386½-88½lr	6¼-8¼lr disc	29½-32½lr disc
Oslo	12.67-76k	12.69-71k	195-20ore prem	125ore prem-50ore d
Paris	11.61½-68½f	11.66-67f	3½-2½c prem	7½-6½c prem
Stockholm	10.69-77k	10.71-73k	380-355ore prem	1305-1405ore disc
Tokyo	472-80y	474½-75½y	240-165y prem	575-505y prem
Vienna	35.65-85sch	35.77-82sch	14-12gro prem	33-27gro prem
Zurich	4.59-64f	4.61½-62½f	3¼-2¼c prem	7-6c prem

Effective exchange rate compared to 1975, was 104.3 up 0.1

Other Markets

Australia	1.9940-2.0090
Bahrein	0.8760-0.8790
Finland	9.4485-9.4885
Greece	116.85-118.85
Hongkong	12.3575-12.3975
Iran	not available
Kuwait	0.6350-0.6380
Malaysia	5.2250-5.2550
Mexico	54.00-55.50
New Zealand	2.4660-2.4860
Saudi Arabia	7.7870-7.7970
Singapore	4.85-4.88
South Africa	1.7825-1.7975

Indices

	Bank of England Index	Morgan Guaranty Changes %
Sterling	104.3	N.A.
US dollar	100.3	N.A.
Canadian dollar	85.9	N.A.
Schilling	113.0	N.A.
Belgian franc	107.6	N.A.
Danish kroner	89.0	N.A.
Deutsche mark	117.0	N.A.
Swiss franc	131.1	N.A.
Guilder	111.9	N.A.
French franc	86.4	N.A.
Lira	61.2	N.A.
Yen	149.1	N.A.

Based on trade weighted changes from Washington agreement December, 1971. (Bank of England Index 100).

Dollar Spot Rates

* Ireland	1.7080-1.7100
+ Canada	1.1986-1.1989
Netherlands	2.3700-2.3730
Belgium	35.02-35.06
Denmark	6.70-6.71
West Germany	2.1800-2.1830
Portugal	56.50-56.60
Spain	86.25-86.35
Italy	1030-1033
Norway	5.48-5.49
France	5.0400-5.0425
Sweden	4.6225-4.6256
Japan	204.90-205.10
Austria	15.45-15.47
Switzerland	1.9920-1.9950

* Ireland quoted in US currency.
+ Canada $1 : US $0.8339-0.8342

EMS Currency Rates

	ECU central rates	currency against ECU	% change from central rate+	% change adjusted+*	divergence limit % plus/minus
Belgian franc	39.7897	41.7581	+4.95	+0.65	1.53
Danish krone	7.7236	7.98369	+3.37	−0.93	1.64
German D-mark	2.48208	2.60460	+4.94	+0.64	1.125
French franc	5.84700	5.99975	+2.62	−1.68	1.3587
Dutch guilder	2.74362	2.82416	+2.94	−1.36	1.512
Irish punt	0.668201	0.697812	+4.43	+0.13	1.665
Italian lira	1157.79	1231.63	+6.38	+2.08	4.08

+ changes are for the ECU therefore positive change denotes weak currency.
* adjusted for sterling's weight in the ECU, and for the lira's wider divergence limits.
Adjustment calculated by The Times.

Euro-$ Deposits

(%) calls, 16¾-17¼; seven days, 17½-17¾; one month, 17¹¹⁄₁₆-17¹⁵⁄₁₆; three months, 17¹³⁄₁₆-18¹⁄₁₆; six months, 17¾-18.

Gold

Gold fixed: am, $493.50 (an ounce); pm, $490.25 close, $486.50. Krugerrand (per coin): $530-503 (£216-217.50). Sovereigns (new): $123-125 (£53-54).

Money Market Rates

Bank of England MLR 14%
(Last changed 24/11/81)
Clearing Banks Base Rate 14%
Discount Mkt Loans %
Overnight: High 13¾ Low 12¾
Week Fixed: 13¾

Treasury Bills (Dis%)

Buying		Selling	
2 months	12⅝	2 months	12½
3 months	12⅝	3 months	12¼

Prime Bank Bills (Dis%) Trades (Dis%)

2 months	13-12²⁹⁄₃₂	3 months	13⅛
3 months	12¹⁵⁄₃₂-12¹³⁄₃₂	4 months	12⅞
4 months	12⅝-12½	6 months	12½
6 months	11⅞-11¾		

Local Authority Bonds

1 month	15¾-15½	7 months	13¼-12⅞
2 months	14½-14¼	8 months	13¼-12⅞
3 months	13¾-13½	9 months	13¼-12⅞
4 months	13½-13¼	10 months	13¼-12⅞
5 months	13¼-13	11 months	13¼-12⅞
6 months	13¼-12⅞	12 months	13-12¾

Secondary Mkt. £CD Rates (%)

1 month	14³⁄₃₂-13³¹⁄₃₂	6 months	12¾-12⅝
3 months	13¼-13⅛	12 months	12¹¹⁄₁₆-12⁹⁄₁₆

Local Authority Market (%)

2 days	14	3 months	13⅝-13¼
7 days	14½	6 months	12¾
1 month	14¼	1 year	12⅝

Interbank Market (%)

Overnight: Open 14¼-14 Close 12

1 week	14½-13⅞	6 months	12¹³⁄₁₆-12¹¹⁄₁₆
1 month	14¼-14	9 months	12¾-12⅝
3 months	13⅝-13⁹⁄₁₆	12 months	12¹¹⁄₁₆-12⁹⁄₁₆

First Class Finance Houses (Mkt. Rate%)
3 months 13¾ : 6 months 13¼

Finance House Base Rate 15%

Wall Street

New York, Feb 12.—Stocks on the New York Stock Exchange closed lower after declining slowly through most of the session. Declining issues outpaced advances by 961 to 463, with 116 issues unchanged. The Dow Jones industrial average slipped to 936.60 down 5.99. Volume slowed for the partial holiday session to 34,700,000 shares from Wednesday's 37,770,000. The NYSE composite index fell 0.12 to 73.05; and the average price per share was down 19 cents.

The computer group continued to suffer from a business slowdown. Volume leader Computer Sciences lost 1⅞ to 16½. It revised its second half profit forecast lower.

Centronics Data lost three to 16⅝. It reported a loss for its fiscal second quarter and first half. Data General was hard hit, dropping 5⅞ to 46⅜.

Computervision dropped 3⅞ to 63¼. Honeywell 1⅜ to 101. Active IBM ¼ to 61⅞ and Rolm 1⅞ to 40¼. Prime Computer which fell sharply early this week after forecasting more pressure on its margins, eased ⅛ to 28⅝.

Sedco lost 1¼ to 35⅞ despite improved fiscal first half net. Hughes Tool fell 1⅛ to 73⅜ and Schlumberger 1⅝ to 101⅞. Hilton Hotels eased ¼ to 37¼. Active Seatrain lines lost ¼ to 7. Texasgulf fell 2⅛ to 52¼. Five Texasgulf executives, including its chairman and its treasurer, were killed in a plane crash last night.

US commodities

GOLD eased slightly in light trading as firm United States interest rates pressured prices $4 lower to $495-$497 an ounce. CHICAGO IMM. April, $581.40 bid; June, $594.50 bid; July, $601.00 bid; Sept, $614.20 bid; Oct, $620.80 bid; Dec, $654.00 bid; Jan, $640.60 asked; March, $655.90 bid; April, $660.50 asked; July, 680.50 asked.

COMEX. Feb, $495.00-497.00; March, $498.60; April, $502.00-505.00; June, $515.00-618.00; Aug, $526.00; Oct, $543.10; Dec, $550.00; Feb, $560.10; April, $582.20; June, $595.40; Aug, $608.60; Oct, $621.80; Dec, $638.00.

SILVER futures closed at new lows for the move on heavy speculative liquidation in a market empty of buying. Losses extended to the 50-cent limit. Feb, 1261.00c; March, 1263.00-1266.00c; April, 1282.00c; May, 1301.50-130.400c; July, 1338.50c; Sept, 1376.50c; Dec, 1430.50c; Jan, 1449.00c; March, 1485.50c; May, 1522.00c; July, 1559.50c; Sept, 1595.00c; Dec, 1649.00c.

COPPER futures posted closing declines for the fourth day in a row with contracts settling 1.00 to 0.70 cent lower. March ended at 80.40 cents, down 0.75 cent. Feb, 79.80c; March, 80.35-80.60c; April, 81.75c; May, 83.80-83.30c; July, 86.00c; Sept, 88.10c; Dec, 91.40c; Jan, 92.15c; March, 93.55c; May, 96.35c; July, 98.15c; Sept, 99.95c; Dec, 102.65c.

COTTON futures were: March, 88.10-88.40c; May, 89.20-89.40c; July, 89.40-89.50c; Oct, 85.10 bid-85.25c asked; Dec, 83.00c; March, 83.00 bid-83.25c asked; May, 85.50 bid-84.00c asked; July, 84.00 bid-86.00c asked.

SUGAR futures closed 1.55 to 1.00 cent lower in sympathy with a sharp sell-off in precious metals futures. March, 26.40-26.50c; May, 26.80-26.90c; July, 27.45c asked; Sept, 25.45c asked; Oct, 26.14c; Jan, 24.04c bid; March, 23.98c; May, 23.78 bid-23.60c asked; July, 23.60 bid-23.80c asked.

COCOA futures ended $31 to $25 weaker, but managed to climb from weakest levels on late short covering. March, $1,855-1,827; May, $1,755-1,912; July, $2,006-1,990; Sept. [illegible]

[illegible]

Foreign exchange.—Sterling, spot 2.3035-2.3360; three months, 2.3555 [illegible]; Canadian dollar [illegible]. The Dow Jones spot commodity index was [illegible]. The futures index was [illegible]. The Dow Jones averages.—Industrials [illegible]

[illegible]

Canadian Prices

[illegible]

Authorized Units, Insurance & Offshore Funds

Authorized Unit Trusts

Abbey Unit Trust Managers.
72-80 Gatehouse Rd, Aylesbury, Bucks. 0296-5941

1980/81 High Bid	Low Offer	Trust	Bid	Offer	Yield
[illegible]	45.1	American Grwth	55.0	58.76	2.45
45.5	[illegible]	Capital	45.0	48.6	5.01
[illegible]	34.0	General	54.9	58.40	5.17
116.6	100.7	Gilt & Fixed Int	105.8	111.40	11.76
[illegible]	[illegible]	Income	71.4	76.10	9.72
[illegible]	81.7	Worldwide	91.3	95.6	6.94
[illegible]	34.5	Investment	41.5	52.4	4.85

[illegible]



Stock Exchange Prices

Selective buying continues

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings Began, Feb 9. Dealings End, Feb 27. § Contango Day, March 2. Settlement Day, March 9

§ Forward bargains are permitted on two previous days

BRITISH FUNDS

SHORTS

MEDIUMS

LONGS

COMMONWEALTH AND FOREIGN

LOCAL AUTHORITIES

DOLLAR STOCKS

BANKS AND DISCOUNTS

BREWERIES AND DISTILLERIES

COMMERCIAL AND INDUSTRIAL

A—B

C—E

F—H

I—L

M—N

O—S

T—Z

FINANCIAL TRUSTS

INSURANCE

INVESTMENT TRUSTS

SHIPPING

MINES

OIL

PROPERTY

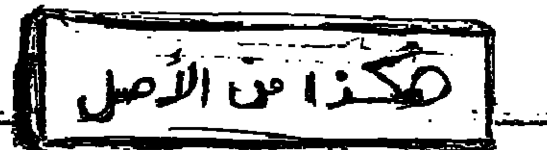
RUBBER

TEA

MISCELLANEOUS

RECENT ISSUES

RIGHTS ISSUES



Law Report February 12 1981 Court of Appeal

Discovery within Mareva jurisdiction

Bekhor & Co Ltd v Bilton

Before Lord Justice Stephenson, Lord Justice Ackner and Lord Justice Griffiths

[Judgment delivered February 6]

The power of the High Court under section 45(1) of the Supreme Court of Judicature (Consolidation) Act, 1925, included a wide power to grant what has come to be known as a Mareva injunction whether or not the party injuncted was domiciled, resident or present in the jurisdiction. There must be inherent in the power the power to make such ancillary orders, including orders for discovery of documents, as are just and convenient to ensure that the exercise of the Mareva jurisdiction is effective to achieve its purpose.

The Court of Appeal, giving reserved judgments, allowed (Lord Justice Griffiths dissenting) an appeal by the defendant, Mr Godfrey Derek Ernest Bilton, from an order of Mr Justice Parker made on November 17, 1980, that Mr Bilton should swear an affidavit and file it with the plaintiffs, A. J. Bekhor & Co Ltd, within a specified time (1) disclosing the full value of his assets within the jurisdiction as at (a) March 11, 1980, (b) April 28, 1980, and (c) the date of the affidavit; (2) identifying with full particularity the nature of all of his assets, including the identity of all bank and other accounts in his name and sums presently standing in such account; (3) disclosing, so far as the value of Mr Bilton's assets did not now total at least £217,000 and £250,000, all assets within his knowledge as to the present whereabouts of any assets paid on April 28, 1980, to be included in that total, but not so included, how and when such assets came to be changed or disposed of; and (4) verifying a written schedule of all such documents material to the … disposition and disposal or … of his assets between March 11, 1980, and the date of the affidavit.

Section 45 provides: "(1) The High Court may grant a mandamus or an injunction or appoint a receiver by an interlocutory order in all cases in which it appears to the court to be just and convenient so to do. (2) Any such order may be made either unconditionally or on such terms and conditions as the court thinks just."

Mr R. A. Gatehouse, QC, and Mr M. Newman for Mr Bilton; Mr A. Stamler, QC, and Mr … Jones for Bekhors.

LORD JUSTICE ACKNER said that Bekhors, who carried on business as stockbrokers, issued on … 12, 1979, a specially endorsed writ claiming £217,077, the balance of money which they alleged they had lent from time to time to Mr Bilton as his stockbrokers. Mr Bilton delivered a defence and counterclaim disputing the alleged debt. It was accepted that the defence and counterclaim raised arguable points.

Early last year Bekhors heard that Mr Bilton had sold his farm and they, successfully, made an ex parte application for an injunction restraining him from removing from the jurisdiction or otherwise disposing of any of his assets, including in particular any … in his bank account and the proceeds of the sale of … Lane Farm, Henley, so as to reduce them below £250,000.

On March 18 the matter was heard inter partes. Mr Justice … Browne made an order restraining Mr Bilton from removing any of his assets from the jurisdiction or otherwise disposing of them out of the jurisdiction.

Mr Bilton swore an affidavit stating, among other things, that his marriage was not a happy one; that he had been close friends with a divorced lady; and that he had decided to separate from his wife and go to live with her and her daughter in Monte Carlo and there start a new life. He added that he had arranged for the sale of Rocky Lane Farm but gave no further information.

He explained that he needed £15,000 a year to maintain a flat for the woman, her daughter and himself to live in. He made an application on that basis to vary the order.

On April 28, on Mr Bilton's undertaking not to change the investment of his assets within the jurisdiction so as to make the depreciation of their value likely, Mr Justice Parker varied the March 18 order. Mr Bilton was allowed to remove from the jurisdiction for living purposes personal possessions to the value not exceeding £5,000, his Citroen motor car and £1,250 a month out of the income from his United Kingdom investments.

Within a few months of that variation doubts arose on the meaning of the undertaking. It was thought to be capable of being construed so as to prevent Mr Bilton meeting his financial obligations within the jurisdiction.

Mr Bilton's commitments in this country involved expenses of occasional visits to England, paying his professional advisers and maintaining his wife and three children. A variation of the order was sought to enable him to meet those commitments.

At the restored hearing of the summons Bekhors gave notice that they would apply under Order 24, rule 7 (1) and Order 26, rule 1 (1) of the Rules of the Supreme Court for an order in the terms in which Mr Justice Parker made the order now under appeal.

In an affidavit of November 11 Mr Bilton set out his assets in England with their approximate values: freehold agricultural land, £75,000; bank account, £3,500; helicopter, £48,000; farm tractor, £6,500; debt owed to him, £7,000; share and loan capital in Lowe Music Ltd, £10,000; money held by solicitors on account of costs, £4,160—£154,160 in all. Mr Bilton went on to state that on April 28 his assets within the jurisdiction were worth approximately £220,000; that they had fallen since that date by about £66,000, such money having been spent by him entirely within the jurisdiction on legal costs £7,452, accountancy fees £6,950, payments to his wife approximately £15,000, payments for the helicopter £25,000, and costs of his visits to England £6,000. He further stated that his commitments within the jurisdiction were likely to be substantial.

At a hearing on November 13, Mr Bilton's affidavit was criticized. It was said that it did not contain information with regard to his assets and liabilities out of the jurisdiction. Mr Bilton swore another affidavit.

He dealt, for the first time, with the proceeds of the sale of Rocky Lane Farm. He said that the sale had been made in various lots and completion took place on three separate dates. The proceeds amounted to £532,500. Immediately after the first sale on March 3, a week before the Mareva injunction, he remitted £53,000 to a bank in Jersey. That, he said, was all he obtained from the sale of the farm because it was heavily mortgaged, part of the proceeds of sale was paid to his wife in satisfaction of her claim, and there were substantial farming and personal debts, but he gave no figures.

Understandably when the matter came before the judge on November 17 Mr Bilton was criticized. Apart from suppressing facts and evasive affidavits, the only obvious income-producing asset disclosed was £10,000, in Lowe Music, which clearly was incapable of producing £25,000 a year or even the £15,000 a year which the court had permitted him to remove. All Mr Bilton's expenses were being met without any substantial income. Further, he had reduced the value of his assets within the jurisdiction by some £66,000, despite the terms of his undertaking to the court.

On an ex parte application in *Nippon Yusen Kaisha v Karageorgis* ([1975] 1 WLR 1093) an injunction restraining charterers from disposing of or removing from the jurisdiction any of the assets which were within the jurisdiction was refused at first instance but granted in the Court of Appeal.

A similar case came before the Court of Appeal, *Mareva Compania Naviera SA v International Bulkcarriers SA* ([1975] 2 Lloyd's Rep 509), from which the Mareva jurisdiction took its name. The power to grant the relief was founded on section 45(1) of the Supreme Court of Judicature (Consolidation) Act, 1925.

A customary form of the order was in very wide terms. It restrained the defendant from removing the jurisdiction, or otherwise disposing of or dealing with any of his assets within the jurisdiction including and in particular a certain specified asset save in so far as such assets did not exceed in value the sum of the plaintiff's claim. The order was made in that wide form in the first instance, but later it might be varied for bona fide payments: *Iraqi Ministry of Defence v Arcepey Shipping Co SA* ([1980] 2 WLR 488).

The use of the remedy had greatly increased, and far from being exceptional it had now become common place. In 1979 applications were being made at the rate of about 20 a month: per Mr Justice Mustill, *Third Chandris Shipping Corporation v Unimarine SA* ([1979] QB 645, 650). Although it was initially thought that the jurisdiction only applied in relation to a defendant who was out of the jurisdiction but had money or goods in this country (*Rasu Maritima SA v Perusahaan Pertambangan Minyak Dangas Bumi Negara* ([1978] QB 644)), it was decided at first instance in *Barclay-Johnson v Yuill* ([1980] 1 WLR 1259) and shortly thereafter by the Court of Appeal in *Rahman (Prince Abdul) bin Turki al Sudairy v Abu-Taha* ([1980] 1 WLR 1268) that the jurisdiction applied even if the defendant was not a foreigner or foreign based, since the essence of the jurisdiction was the risk of the defendant removing his assets from the jurisdiction and so stultifying any judgment given by the courts in the action.

Article 37 of the Supreme Court Bill now before Parliament provided for the reenactment of section 45(1) and further provided in terms that the power of the court to grant an interlocutory injunction restraining a party to any proceedings from removing from the jurisdiction of the High Court or otherwise dealing with assets located within that jurisdiction should be exercisable in cases where that party was, as well as in cases where he was not, domiciled, resident or present within that jurisdiction.

A further step in the evolution of the Mareva jurisdiction took place in *A v C* ([1980] 2 All ER 347). In that case Mr Justice Robert Goff held that there was ample authority that in an action in which the plaintiff sought to trace property, which in equity belonged to him, the court not only had jurisdiction to grant an injunction restraining the disposal of that property but might in addition, at the interlocutory stages of the action, make orders designed to ascertain the whereabouts of that property. That part of the decision was approved by the Court of Appeal in *Bankers Trust Co v Shapira* ([1980] 1 WLR 1274).

On the question of the power to make an order for discovery of documents or for interrogatories in aid of Mareva injunctions Mr Justice Robert Goff concluded that the court should exercise, where necessary, its powers to order discovery or interrogatories in order to ensure that the Mareva jurisdiction was properly exercised and thereby to secure its objectives, which were the prevention of abuse.

Having regard to the authorities it was now clearly established that the power of the High Court under section 45(1) included the power to grant an interlocutory injunction *to restrain a party to any proceedings* from removing from the jurisdiction or otherwise dealing with assets located within the jurisdiction where the party was, as well as where he was not, domiciled, resident or present within that jurisdiction. There must be inherent in that power, the power to make all such ancillary orders as appeared to the court to be just and convenient, to ensure that the exercise of the Mareva jurisdiction was effective to achieve its purpose.

Given that there was power to make an order for discovery in aid of Mareva injunctions in the limited sense, the question then was whether the order made by Mr Justice Parker was such an order. Bearing in mind all the circumstances of the case including Mr Bilton's behaviour, there was no necessity for making any order ancillary to the Mareva injunction in order to ensure the proper exercise of that jurisdiction.

Apart from the lack of information given in regard to Mr Bilton's assets, the judge was clearly concerned, and rightly concerned, at the lack of any income—producing assets. He was also concerned with Mr Bilton's apparent breaches of his undertaking. Anticipating that Mr Bilton's affidavit might disclose that he had been guilty of contempt of court, the judge gave Bekhors liberty to make a further application to the court with regard to Mr Bilton's operations since the undertaking was given.

Mr Stamler, for Bekhors, submitted that the judge was seeking to police the Mareva injunction and that that order, therefore, was made in aid of the Mareva injunction. His Lordship could not accept that view. If Bekhors, or the court of its own volition, desired to police its order then Bekhors could have applied for an order for the cross-examination of Mr Bilton on his affidavit, or the court itself could have made such an order: Order 38, rule 2.

There was another remedy open to Bekhors or the judge. The order of April 28 appeared to have been obtained without proper disclosure to the court of the true position of Mr Bilton's assets. Bekhors could have applied for the withdrawal, and the judge of his own initiative could have withdrawn, from Mr Bilton the *permission to remove any further money from the jurisdiction unless* and until he made a full and proper disclosure of those matters and he had given a proper explanation of his conduct between the material dates.

While fully endorsing and approving the judge's desire to put an end to Mr Bilton's evasiveness and to establish to what extent, if at all, there had been non-compliance with his order, or breaches by Mr Bilton of his undertaking, his Lordship did not consider that the judge had the jurisdiction to achieve it by the order which he made. Having regard to the existence of the remedies available to Bekhors to *police the Mareva injunction it* would be quite wrong to seek to create new machinery which could have far reaching and undesirable consequences and which were unnecessary for the proper operation of the Mareva jurisdiction.

LORD JUSTICE GRIFFITHS, while agreeing on the existence of power to make an order for discovery under the Mareva jurisdiction but disagreeing on whether the order was properly made, said that the power to order a Mareva injunction was discretionary, and it followed that the power to order discovery as an ancillary order to the injunction must also be discretionary. The Court of Appeal should only interfere with the exercise of the judge's discretion if satisfied that it had been wrongly exercised.

The judge was dealing with very evasive litigant. The affidavits he had put before the court did not begin to make economic sense. Futhermore, the court had been misled as to his residence and other matters. The judge was fully justified in taking the view that Mr Bilton's affidavits as to his assets were so unsatisfactory that he was entitled to refuse to accept their contents at their face value and *to order Mr Bilton to make a full* disclosure of his financial position. The fact that alternative courses were open to the judge was not a reason why he should not order discovery if he considered that to be the more appropriate course.

Lord Justice Stephenson gave a judgment concurring with Lord Justice Ackner.

The appeal was allowed.

Solicitors: Harbottle & Lewis; Coward Chance.

The colonel's arms

Burditt v Joslin

The Divisional Court dismissed an appeal by Colonel Brian Burditt, a serving Army officer, against the dismissal by Warwick Crown Court of his appeal against the refusal by the Chief Constable of Warwickshire to renew a firearms certificate.

LORD JUSTICE DONALDSON said that renewal had been refused on the ground that as an officer serving in Germany with BAOR in 1979 Colonel Burditt, while otherwise a proper person to hold a certificate, was not resident in Warwickshire as required by section 26 of the Firearms Act, 1968, though he owned a house there.

The Act required that an applicant "resides" in a police area. Unlike other statutes which required only that a person be "ordinarily" resident, the Act meant that he must be physically resident in the area. While a person might have two residences at which he "resides" Colonel Burditt could not be said so to reside because he had let his home to tenants and thus had no right to occupy it himself. The certificate was rightly refused.

The case perhaps indicated an unfortunate lacuna in the Act which particularly affected service personnel who let their homes while serving abroad, thus disqualifying themselves from the right to continue to hold firearms certificates as United Kingdom residents.

Failure need not be wilful

Section 27 of the Matrimonial Causes Act, 1973, as amended by the Domestic Proceedings and Magistrates' Courts Act, 1978, now provides that either party to a marriage may apply to the court for an order that the other party has failed to provide reasonable maintenance for the applicant or has failed to provide, or make proper contribution towards, reasonable maintenance for any child of the family. The revised jurisdiction does not require that the failure should be wilful.

In a Direction the Senior Registrar of the Family Division states that the Matrimonial Causes Rules, 1977, have been amended accordingly so as to provide, inter alia, that the application may be deal with by a registrar. In the Divorce Registry it will not be the practice to allocate a hearing date on the notice of the application which will be served on the respondent. Application for a hearing date should be made by lodging Form D270 as in any other application for financial provision in a matrimonial cause proceeding in the registry.

Chancery Division

Conservation area extended, but demolition goes on

Windsor and Maidenhead Royal Borough v Brandrose Investments Ltd

Before Mr Justice Fox

[Judgment delivered February 6]

A local authority, having reached an agreement under section 52 of the Town and Country Planning Act, 1971, involving demolition of the existing buildings and development of the site, could not, when they later extended the conservation area to include the site, seek to prevent the demolition without their consent, by exercising their powers under section 277A of the Act.

Mr Lionel Read, QC, and Mr Timothy Stow for the plaintiffs, *the Royal Borough of Windsor* and Maidenhead; Mr K. R. Bagnall, QC, and Mr Kirk Reynolds for the defendants, Brandrose Investment Ltd.

HIS LORDSHIP said the matter arose out of proposals for development of property owned by Brandrose in Peascod Street, Windsor. The site adjoined land owned by the borough council, the local planning authority. In 1976 an agreement was made between the parties under section 52 of the Town and Country Planning Act, 1971, and planning permission was granted to Brandrose for development. In March, 1978, the council amended the boundaries of the conservation areas in Windsor, so as to include the Peascod Street site.

In general, if property was lawfully designated to be within a conservation area, the planning authority's consent was required to demolish buildings thereon, under section 277A of the Act. Brandrose commenced demolition in 1979, and on July 2, on the council's ex parte application to restrain them from proceeding with the demolition without their consent, Mr Justice Foster granted an injunction. On July 3, the council issued a writ seeking a declaration that Brandrose were not entitled to demolish without their consent, a permanent injunction, and, by notice of motion, an interlocutory injunction until trial.

On July 11 Mr Justice Walton refused the interlocutory injunction sought, and there was no appeal. No further steps having been taken, Brandrose applied to have the matter struck out, but in February, 1980, the council delivered a statement of claim seeking merely a declaration that Brandrose were not and/or had at no time since the land had been included in the conservation area been entitled to demolish without their consent under section 277A. Two enforcement notices were withdrawn, and the secretary of state confirmed that no further steps would be taken.

It was agreed that Brandrose's present summons to strike out should be treated as the trial of the action. It was common ground that the buildings were not of any historic or architectural interest, and all the buildings had in fact been demolished. The only practical importance of the present proceeding, apart from the declaration sought, was as to costs and possibly on the question of the implied undertaking as to damages given at the time the ex-parte injunction was granted.

There were two questions for decision. (1) Could the council lawfully enter into an agreement under section 52 which would have the effect of disentitling them from requiring consent to the demolition, under section 277A? (2) If so, did the agreement between the parties have that effect?

As to (1), Mr Read referred to the Court of Appeal decision in *Ransom & Luck Ltd v. Surbiton Borough Council* ([1949] Ch 181), where it was held that section 34 of the Town and Country Planning Act, 1932, only enabled a landowner to enter into an agreement with the local authority restricting the use of land, so that the local authority could enforce the restrictions against a successor in title of the landowner, and that it was not competent for the local authority to incorporate into the agreement any restrictions on its statutory powers.

His Lordship bore that in mind, but plainly Parliament could by appropriate language authorize a planning authority to enter into agreements which would limit the subsequent exercise of an authority's statutory powers.

Section 52 was very different from section 34, which applied only where a landowner was willing to agree to conditions restricting planning development or use *of the land*. *Section 52* opened with a wide general authority to enter into any agreement, with any person interested in the land for the purpose of restricting or regulating its development or use. The fundamental difference, however, was to be found in section 52 (3), which had no counterpart in section 34, and by virtue of which nothing in section 52 or in any agreement made under it should be construed "as restricting the exercise, in relation to land which is the subject of any such agreement, of any powers exercisable by any minister or authority under this Act so long as those *powers are exercised in* accordance with the provisions of the development plan, or in accordance with any directions given which may have been given by the Secretary of State as to the *provisions to be included in such* plan".

If that provision was intended to preserve the authority's right to exercise any of its powers or discretions it could have stopped after the words "this Act", but the rest of the subsection seemed plainly intended to place a limitation upon the saving provision.

The only sensible constriction was that an exercise of the authority's powers would not be preserved, in conflict with the agreement, except where such exercise was in accordance with the development plan or with a *ministerial direction*. The language of the subsection was inconsistent with a general saving of the authority's right to exercise powers contrary to the agreement.

Section 52 (3) contemplated fetters on the local authority's powers, and was *not* concerned merely with enabling it to enforce the agreement.

In the present case there was no development plan or ministerial direction. It followed that the agreement under section 52 limited the authority's powers to take steps to prevent demolition. Nothing in law prevented the agreement having that effect.

It was well established that a person on whom a statutory power was conferred could not simply fetter its future exercise: *Southend-on-Sea Corporation v Hodgson (Wickford) Ltd* ([1962] QB 416, 424). But there was nothing in principle to prevent the exercise of a statutory power being limited by a previous exercise of another statutory power: *Dowty Boulton Paul Ltd v Wolverhampton Corporation* ([1971] 1 WLR 204). Mr Justice Walton had reached the same conclusion in his judgment on the motion holding that there was obviously an implied agreement by the council to the demolition. His Lordship agreed, as did Mr Read. Mr Read, however, argued that it did *not* follow that a promise by the council was to be implied that it would not require their consent to be obtained to the demolition.

That submission seemed quite unreal. The purpose of the section 52 agreement was to regulate the development of the land. It must have been implied that the council, so far as they were entitled, would *do nothing to impede the demolition*, which was the very thing they were authorizing. His Lordship's conclusion was therefore the same as Mr Justice Walton's, that, in view of section 52(3), the council could not use any of their statutory powers to prevent demolition, unless what they proposed was in accordance with the development plan—which did not exist.

The extension of the conservation area was perfectly lawful, but the council were not entitled to apply the consequence of that extension so as to prevent demolition of the buildings. There would be a *declaration accordingly*.

Solicitors: Mr P. A. Welch, Maidenhead; *Gamlens* for Lovegrove & Durant, Windsor.





Motoring

Economy is the keyword for Volkswagen

Volkswagen has announced what amounts to the single most important initiative by a car manufacturer so far in the cause of energy conservation, a range of economy models offering savings in fuel consumption of up to a third.

Designated Formula E (E for energy conscious), they will be available as additional versions of most cars in the Volkswagen and Audi range, apart from performance models such as the Scirocco, Audi Coupé and Audi 200.

Volkswagen says that the Formula E versions will be among the most economical cars in their class. The Golf diesel with Formula E becomes the most economical car in Europe with consumption figures of 47 mpg in town, 62.8 mpg at 56 mph and 42.8 mpg at 75 mph.

The 1100cc petrol Golf is 29 per cent more economical in town driving, 34 per cent at 56 mph and 28 per cent at 75 mph. The average fuel consumption gain of the Formula E version is 25 per cent and in many cases performance times are comparable with standard models.

Formula E means different things in different cars but the ingredients include special aerodynamic aids, high ratio gearboxes, electronic ignition and a stop-start system which cuts out the engine in traffic jams. For the Polo, Derby, Golf and Jetta there is a new high compression version of the 1100cc engine.

Of those, the stop-start system is the most interesting. Designed for traffic hold-ups, it allows the driver to cut the engine at the touch of a button on a steering column stalk. To restart, he depresses the clutch and touches the accelerator. An electronic control ensures that the system operates only when the vehicle is at a standstill and when the engine is warm.

The device is said to reduce fuel consumption in town by up to 30 per cent and to give a 10 per cent saving overall. Exhaust emissions in town are also reduced by the same amount. The stop-start system is fitted to the Formula E Passat, Audi 80 and Audi 100.

The smaller cars, the Polo, Derby, Golf and Jetta, have a special gearbox through which top speed is reached in third, while the fourth or E gear is a higher than usual ratio for economic cruising. The larger models have a five-speed box which gives top speed in fourth.

All Formula E versions have an indicator to tell the driver when to change to a higher gear for maximum economy. The system is already used in some VW and Audi cars and can give savings of about 15 per cent. The E models also have a fuel consumption gauge.

There had to be a catch, of course, and the bad news is that the Formula E cars cost more. In Germany, where they are on sale, the price difference is £70 on the Polo and £120 on the Audi 100. My calculation is that the cars will pay for themselves in just over a year, given an annual milage of 8,000.

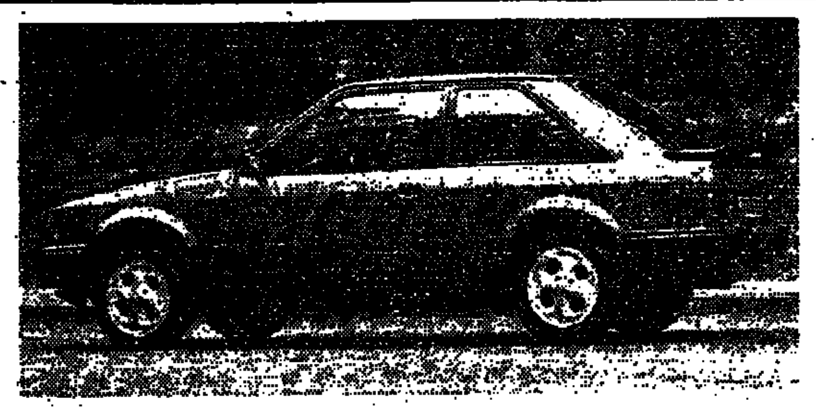
The Formula E versions are unlikely to reach Britain before the autumn and no decision has been taken on what models might be sold here. When they are, it will be interesting to see how customers decide between a lower selling price and the prospect of paying 25 per cent less at the petrol pumps.

Better fuel economy is also the keynote of the revised Austin Allegro range. The cars have been fitted with the modified A Series engine, used in the Metro and the Ital, and that has helped to make the Allegro 1.3 more economical than rivals such as the new Escort, Vauxhall Astra, Golf, Fiat Strada and Renault 14.

The extra power of the engine (up from 54 to 63 bhp), and higher gearing, has improved performance, with the 0 to 60 mph acceleration time cut from 17.9 to 15.7 seconds. The 998cc Metro engine has been introduced to the Allegro in place of the 1.1 litre, with some economy gains; the 1.5 and 1.7 units continue as before.

The Allegros also benefit from the sound deadening treatment applied to other BL models, while the odometer is a new six-digit type which is said to be tamperproof and cannot be put back without damaging the mechanism—rogue car dealers, please note.

Finally, on the fuel economy theme, BP has produced a leaflet giving useful hints on saving petrol. It is available, free, from BP filling stations.



Eye-catching Escort—the XR3

Road test: Ford Escort XR3

When the new front-wheel drive Escort was announced, there was much interest in the model that would succeed the RS2000 as the sporting member of the family. Ford's answer was to take the three-door 1600, tune up the engine, fit fatter tyres and alloy wheels, deepen the front air dam and add a spoiler at the back and call the result the XR3.

Visually the impact of these changes and additions is considerable. While the RS2000 always looked like a bread and butter family saloon with knobs on, the XR3's accoutrements enhance what is already a chunkily sporting shape. It is a car that turns heads and if appearances count it should enjoy a steady sale.

To power the XR3 Ford has taken the new overhead camshaft engine in its 1596cc form, modified the camshaft and fitted a twin-choke carburettor. The effect is to increase output from 79 to 96 bhp and to provide excellent performance. I was able to confirm Ford's 0 to 60 mph acceleration figure of under nine seconds and a similar time for the arguably more important 30 to 50 mph acceleration in top gear. The engine also benefits from an automatic choke and electronic ignition.

Acceleration is not an entirely smooth progression since there is a slight hesitation as the carburettor's second choke is activated and the car does not feel quite as brisk as the figures suggest. Nor is the engine exactly quiet and under the kind of hard driving that a car of that sort is likely to get it can sound harsh and boomy. At 70 mph, though, mechanical noise is tolerable and thanks to the car's low drag factor, there is little wind noise.

Fuel consumption, considering the performance available, is most respectable. The official figures suggest a range of 28 mpg in town to 32 mpg cruising on the open road and I was able to better both of these without trying too hard.

There is the usual excellent Ford gearbox, with four speeds, sensible ratios and smooth changes, and the brakes are reassuringly effective. But partly because of the low profile tyres, the steering is heavy even when the car is on the move and while the small steering wheel may look the part in a sporting model, it does not help. The clutch is also heavy and can lead to involuntary stalling.

The all-independent suspension, which has been fitted with gas-filled dampers and progressive rate rear springs, produces taut handling and the car corners neutrally and with little body-roll. Roadholding is generally good, but can be disconcerted by bumpy surfaces.

As far as comfort goes, the XR3 is unhappily no advance on the ordinary Escort. The ride is not so much firm, which is to be expected from a car of sporting pretensions, but hard, choppy and even prone to wallow; sensitive stomachs should keep away. The suspension is noisy and there is noticeable tyre rumble.

Special seats have been installed to match the character of the car. They are firm, well shaped and give good support at the side. Leg room in the back seat is just about adequate, although a tall person will find his head brushing the roof. A somewhat heavy tailgate opens on agood, if high-lipped, boot which can be extended by fol[ding] the back seat down.

The car offers good all-round visibility, the big tailgate spoiler acting as a useful refer[ence] point when reversing, but heavy steering makes parking a chore. The heating and ventilation system is easy to operate and is particularly effective at demisting the windscreen.

At £5,395, the XR3 is the most expensive model in the Escort range. The level of standard equipment is not as generous and the car stands or falls on its performance (excellent), handling (good but with reservations), with low fuel consumption as a bonus. But potential buyers should remember the immortal words of Bette Davis in *All About Eve*: "Fasten your seat belts, it's gonna be a bumpy ride."

Motorway madness

I reproduce, without comment, the following item from the [illegible] of the Greater Manchester police traffic department. One summer evening, a constable spotted a man and a woman walking along the M56 motorway, pushing an eight-week-old baby in a pram. To get where they were, they had crossed eight lanes of traffic.

The wife said she came from Yorkshire but did not know about motorways. When it was pointed out to her that a famous motorway, the M1, ran through the county, she replied: "W[ell] I left there when I was v[ery] young."

Peter Wayman

(continued on page 2[illegible])

هكذا من الأصل

PERSONAL CHOICE

...hryn Pogson who appears in tonight's Playhouse film ...s at the Beach, by Malcolm Mowbray (BBC 2, 9.30).

...onight's edition of In the Country (BBC 2, 7.55) being ...last in the present series, it is entirely appropriate that the ...lar contributors are given their head. Or rather their heart. ...s, they take us to their special places. Angela Rippon's is ...Dartmoor's fringe, where she lives. Phil Drabble's is a ...ate country estate in Staffordshire; Joe Henson's is his ...n in the Cotswolds; Gordon Beningfield's is in the Home ...nties; Bernard Price's is the South Downs of Sussex. ...rn of In the Country, Friday nights on BBC 2 are going to be ...ost entirely urban in atmosphere. A brisk walk round the ...den will help to fill the gap.

...tewart Granger, who is revealing himself to be a much more ...eful character away from the camera than he ever was in ...t of it, has written an autobiography that sounds ...ntionally sensational, and in the interviews he has been ...ng all this week on radio and television, his questioners got ...land truly hooked when they rose to his juicy bait. I fully ...ect, however, that when the discerning Mavis Nicholson ...rviews Mr Granger on Afternoon Plus (ITV, 2.00), she will ...duct matters in her way and not his. She has an excellent ...k record.

...trust you are not missing more of the Chaplin films ...BBC 2 than is absolutely necessary. There are another two ...reelers tonight (5.35), Laughing Gas and The Rounders ...they belong to the comedian's Keystone days, which means ...the comedy routines he incorporated into the two movies ...wrote and directed both of them) were new-minted—and ...still manage to look fresh. It is an astonishing fact that, ...ing his year at the Keystone Studios, Chaplin made 35 films.

...f you would like me to plot your evening's listening, ...is the pattern I recommend. Begin at 7.30, Radio 3, with ...n Williams guitar recital (Mudarra, Sanz and Albeniz). ...ing the 20-minute interval, at 8.10, switch over to Radio 4 ...earn what happened when Robert Rowe, between cups of tea, ...tted with Barbara Cartland and found her in St Valentine's ...mood. Back to Radio 3 at 8.30 for John Williams playing ...ic by Barrios-Mangoré. You will need that five-minute break ...10 before settling down to the master broadcaster ...tair Cook and his Letter From America (Radio 4, 9.15). ...lly (Radio 3, 10.25), listen to the movie-going reminiscences ...uline Kael, possibly America's most influential film critic. ...is one of the brightest gems in the crown of The New Yorker ...zine.

...T THE SYMBOLS MEAN: †STEREO; *BLACK AND WHITE; ...REPEAT.

Broadcasting Guide

Edited by Peter Davalle

TELEVISION

BBC 1

9.05 am For Schools, Colleges: Germany; 9.25 Athlete (long jump); 9.52 Miss Wood in Danger; 10.15 Maths: at the seaside; 10.35 Going to Work; 11.02 Hyn o Fyd (this world).
11.25 You and Me: Take My Hand (4).
11.40 For Schools, Colleges: Living in the Soil; 12.05 pm Sixteen Up: Drugs. Closedown at 12.30.
12.45 News. 1.00 Pebble Mill at One: Today's items include Peter Seabrook's gardening feature, Dig This. **1.45 How Do You Do?** Counting games and rhymes. With *Carmen Munroe.*
2.02 For Schools, Colleges: Documentary on friendship (with Liverpool schoolchildren). 2.35 A Good Job with Prospects. Closedown at 3.00.
3.20 Eira Ddoe (snows of yesteryear). For Welsh viewers. **3.55 Play School:** Ronda and David Armitage's story The Lighthouse Keeper's Lunch. **4.20 Touché Turtle:** cartoon. Kat-napped.
4.25 Jackanory: Sheila Hancock concludes her readings from Eleanor Farjeon's The Little Bookroom **4.40 Finders Keepers:** New series begins. Children's quiz, compered by Richard Stilgoe. Includes a game of electronic battleships with a difference. **5.05 Grange Hill:** school serial. Episode 14. William Watson's terrifying short cut home. **5.35 The Perishers:** with Leonard Rossiter (r).
5.40 News: with Jan Leeming. **5.55 Regional magazines.** And, at **6.20, Nationwide.** Alan Titchmarsh presents his gardening item, and Desmond Lynam presents the sports round-up.
7.00 The Superstars: From Eilat, southern Israel. This is the international contest. Britain's hopes are pinned on Keith Fielding, the Rugby League and Union international, and Andy Ripley, the Rugby Union player.
8.00 The Walls of Jericho: Serial about women's struggle to win a place in the medical profession in the last century. Tonight: Sophia Jex-Blake (Sara Kestelman) suffers a blow to her pride while taking her medical degree exams. **8.50 Points of View:** Barry Took comments on viewers' letters about BBC TV programmes.
9.00 News: with Peter Woods.
9.25 Starsky and Hutch: Hutch falls for a Russian ballerina under police protection. Starsky is on the trail of the terrorists who are threatening to kill her (r).
10.15 Peter Skellern: The autobiography of the singer/composer continues. Tonight: how living in Kent has influenced his life and work (r).
10.50 Royal Heritage: Part 6 of Huw Wheldon's series about Britain's royal builders and collectors. Tonight: the debt we owe to George IV. Includes visits to the Brighton Pavilion and Windsor Castle.
11.50 Ballroom Champions: Couples compete for the Professional Modern and Amateur Latin American titles in the United Kingdom Ballroom Championships. With Ray Moore, Peggy Spencer. Ends at 12.35 am.

Regions

BBC 1 VARIATIONS: BBC Cymru/Wales: 1.45 pm-2.02 O Dan Y Mor. 2.02-2.22 I Ysgolion. 3.20-3.55 Closedown. 4.45-5.05 Siams Sionc. 5.55-6.20 Wales Today. 7.00-7.25 Heddiw. 7.25 Triangle 7.50-8.50 The Superstars. 10.15-11.05 Week In Week Out. 11.05-11.06 News. 11.06-12.06 am Royal Heritage. 12.06-1.28 Film: Subterfuge (Joan Collins). 1.28 Weather. Scotland: 11.00 am-11.20 For Schools. 12.40 pm-12.45 Scottish News. 3.20-3.55 Closedown. 5.55-6.20 Reporting Scotland. 10.15-10.45 It's Himself ... Norman. 10.45-10.50 News. 12.35 am Close. Northern Ireland: 11.02 am-11.25 Closedown. 3.20 pm-3.53 Closedown. 3.53-3.55 Northern Ireland News. 5.55-6.20 Scene Around Six. 10.15-10.45 Spotlight. 10.45-10.50 News. 12.35 am News. England: 5.55 pm-6.20 Regional magazines: 10.15-10.45 East—Weekend. London, South East—Peter Skellern. Midlands—Midlands Tonight. North—Politics North. North East—Coasts to Coast. North West—Home Ground: Line of Change. South—The Pacemakers. South West—Parallels. West—One Iron Horse—Handle With Care. 12.35 am Close.

BBC 2

11.00 am Play School. Same as BBC 1, 3.55 (The Lighthouse Keeper's Lunch). Close down at 11.25.
5.35 pm Charlie Chaplin: The Rounders, and Laughing Gas. A double-bill. In the first, Charlie's partner is Fatty Arbuckle. In the second, there is chaos at a dental surgery.* (See Personal Choice.)
6.00 Monkey: Japanese-made series set in Old China, with *English dubbed dialogue* that fits where it touches—which isn't by any means everywhere.
6.45 Speak for Yourself: The series for those whose first language is not English. Tonight: unpunctuality at work, and what to do about it. There is a mini-play to illustrate the theme.
7.10 News: with sub-titles for the hard of hearing.
7.20 Oxford Road Show: Young people put on a show at the BBC's Manchester studios. With Rob Rohrer, Jackie Spreckley and Paula Yates.
7.55 In the Country: Winter Reflections. The regular team of contributors—Angela Rippon, Phil Drabble, Joe Henson, Gordon Beningfield and Bernard Price—take us to their special place in the country. (See Personal Choice.)
8.25 A Party is Arranged: A Newsweek investigation into the prospects for the Council for *Social* Democracy. Roy Hattersley, David Steel and members of the so-called Gang of Three are interviewed.
9.00 Call My Bluff: Start of a new series of this entertaining game for poker-faced contestants. Frank Muir, Sue Cook and Bryan Forbes compete against Arthur Marshall, Nanette Newman and Paul Eddington. The question-putter is Robert Robinson.
9.30 Playhouse: Days at the Beach. Malcolm Mowbray's film is set in 1920, by the seaside, where soldiers are guarding a mine washed ashore. There's dancing every night at the Hotel Majestic near by. And, along the coast, there's a hospitable woman. With Sam Kelly, Stephen Bill, Mark Aspinall.
11.00 Newsnight: All the day's news, with detailed coverage of the main stories. Includes David Lomax's report on the drug pedlars of Goa.
11.45 Friday Night . . . Saturday Morning: Simon Hoggart is tonight's MC. His guests include the New Zealand opera singer Kiri Te Kanawa, Barry Took, Kenneth Williams, Malcolm Bradbury who wrote The History Man, and Dr Keith Stoll, a specialist in matters sexual and matrimonial. Ends at 12.40 am.

THAMES

9.30 am For Schools. Botanic Man (with David Bellamy); 9.58 Cities: *Milton Keynes*; 10.15 French programme: fashions; 10.38 The theory of evolution: 11.02 Bananas; 11.14 Lenny the Lion; 11.26 Maths for the very young; 11.43 For the deaf.
12.00 The Magic Ball: Eric Thompson tells the story, written by Gerald Hagan; 12.10 pm Once Upon a Time: Mark Wynter tells the story of The Golden Touch.
12.30 A Better Read: The theme of Bill Grundy's book programme is historical stories. He talks to Lynn Guest, Jean Stubbs and Diane Pearson (r).
1.00 News; 1.20 Thames news; 1.30 Together: The continuing story of the folk who live in a block of flats.
2.00 After Noon Plus: Stewart Granger is interviewed by Mavis Nicholson on the occasion of the publication of his autobiography. (See Personal Choice).
2.45 Film: The Girl Who Came Gift Wrapped (1974) Comedy, made for TV, about a magazine publisher (Richard Long) whose birthday gift is a lovely girl (Karen Valentine).
4.15 Watch It! Another story of Dr Snuggles, the inventor; **4.20 The Adventures of Black Beauty:** Why the children don't take to Dr Phelps (r); **4.45 Animals in Action:** All kinds of hunters, including man. With Keith Shackleton; **5.15 Clapperboard:** Film clips programme, presented by Chris Kelly. Today: pop stars turned film actors.
5.45 News; 6.00 Thames News; 6.30 Thames Sport. What is in store for the weekend.

London Weekend

7.00 pm Family Fortunes: The contestants in this quiz game have to get as near as they can to what the man in the street thinks. With Bob Monkhouse.
7.30 Vegas: A dubious clinic is investigated during a murder inquiry.
8.30 The Gaffer: A temporary secretary is engaged at the light-engineering works run by Bill Maynard. The comedy series continues.
9.00 Second Chance: Romantic dramas about a divorced couple (Susannah York, Ralph Bates) and their teenaged children. Tonight: the couple strike up new friendships.
10.00 News from ITN; 10.30 Benson: Comedy series about a black butler (Robert Guillaume) at a governor's residence. Tonight, he is told to report to the US Army.
11.00 The London Programme: Lead Poisoning London? The latest evidence about the level of lead in London's dust which is causing the Greater London Council much concern. One of the biggest fears is that it can cause brain damage to young children.
11.35 Mannix: A warning from a clairvoyant that a young girl is in danger. With Mike Connors as the private detective.
12.30 am Close.

RADIO

Radio 4

6.00 am News Briefing.
6.10 Farming Today.
6.30 Today.
7.00, 8.00 News.
7.30, 8.30 Headlines.
8.35 Yesterday in Parliament.
9.00 News.
9.05 Desert Island Discs.†
9.45 Feedback.
10.00 News.
10.02 International Assignment.
10.30 Daily Service.
10.45 Story: The New Arrival, by Jeremy Burgess.
11.00 News.
11.05 A Life Kept Always Young.
11.50 Natural Selection.
12.00 News.
12.02 pm You and Yours.
12.27 My Music.†
12.55 Weather.
1.00 The World at One.
1.40 The Archers.
2.00 News.
2.02 Woman's Hour.
3.00 News.
3.02 Play: Uncle's Dream, by Fyodor Dostoevsky.†
4.05 Weigh-In.
4.15 Poetry Up To Now (6).
4.45 The Towers of Trebizond (8).
5.00 PM.
5.55 Weather.
6.00 News.
6.30 Going Places.
7.00 News.
7.05 The Archers.
7.20 Pick of the Week.†
8.10 Profile.
8.30 Any Questions?
9.15 Letter from America.
9.30 Kaleidoscope.
10.00 The World Tonight.
10.35 Week Ending.†
11.00 The Harpole Report (5).
11.15 Financial *World* Tonight.
11.30 Today in Parliament.
11.45 BBC Sound Archives.
12.00 News.
12.15 am-12.23 Shipping forecast.

VHF
9.05 am Schools: Contact; Music Interlude; Country Dancing Stage II (4); Notice Board (2); Music Workshop.
10.30-10.45 Listen With Mother.
11.00-12.00 Schools: Exploring Society; Listening and Writing (4); Prospect.
2.00 pm-3.00 Schools: Let's Join In; Religious Education; Music Interlude.
11.00-12.00 Study on 4: Kontakte (16); Allez France I (15).

Radio 3

6.55 am Weather.
7.00 News.
7.05 Records: Zelenka, Schubert, Hindemith, Haydn (Sym 17).†
8.00 News.
8.05 Records: Cimarosa, Scarlatti, Saint-Saëns, Poulenc, Dukas.†
9.00 News.
9.05 Week's Composer: Wolf.
9.45 Wind trios: Fasch, Vivaldi.†
10.10 BBC Concert Orch/Keeffe: Saint-Saëns, Gounod, Dvorak.†
11.10 Cello, piano: D. Gabrieli, Fauré, Tchaikovsky, Glière.†
12.05 pm English Concert/Pinnock, pt 1: Handel, Bach, J.-M. Leclair.†
1.00 News.
1.05 EC, pt 2: Bach, Handel.†
1.40 Clarinet trios: Beethoven (op 11), Frankel.†
2.25 Cricket: West Indies v England.
4.55 News.
5.00 Mainly for Pleasure.†
6.55 Play it Again: preview.†
7.00 Quartet (Gabrieli): Haydn (op 74 no 3).†
7.30 Guitar (J. Williams—live from Birmingham), pt 1: Mudarra, Sanz, Albeniz.†
8.10 Humbert Wolfe: reading.
8.30 Guitar, pt 2: Barrios-Mangoré.†
9.10 One Pair of Ears: review.
9.25 Music in Our Time: BBCSO/Knussen: Perle (Short Sym), Knussen (1st UK perfs).†
10.25 Conversation: She Found it at the *Movies.*
11.00 News.
11.05 Record: Brahms.†
11.15-11.30 Cricket.

VHF
2.25 pm Piano: Liszt.†
3.15 BBC Scottish SO/T. Kern: Fauré, Kalinnikov (Sym 2).†
4.20-4.55 BBC Singers/Portman: Britten.†
11.15-12.15 am Open University: The First Years of Life—Baby Talk; Why Self-Sufficiency?; Briefing and Training for Part-Time Staff—Telephone Teaching.

Radio 2

5.00 am News, weather. 5.03 Bob Kilbey.† 7.32 Terry Wogan.† 10.03 Jimmy Young.† 12.03 pm David Hamilton.† 2.03 Ed Stewart.† 4.03 Much More Music.† 6.03 John Dunn.† 8.03 Barn Dance.† 8.45 Friday Night is Music Night.† 10.02 Castle's on the Air. 10.30 The Organist Entertains. 11.02 Brian Matthew. 2.02 am-5.00 You and the Night and the Music.†

Radio 1

5.00 am As Radio 2. 7.00 Mike Read. 9.00 Simon Bates. 11.00 Andy Peebles. 12.30 pm Newsbeat. 12.45 Paul Burnett. 2.32 Dave Lee Travis. 4.32 Steve Wright. 5.30 Newsbeat. 5.45 Roundtable. 7.31 Anne Nightingale. 10.02 Friday Rock Show.† 12.00 Close.

VHF RADIOS 1 AND 2: 5.00 am With Radio 2. 10.00 pm With Radio 1. 12.00-5.00 am With Radio 2.

World Service

BBC World Service can be received in Western Europe on medium wave (648 kHz, 463m) at the following times (GMT):

6.00 am Newsdesk. 7.00 World News. 7.09 Thirty-Minute Theatre. 7.45 Merchant Navy Programme. 8.00 World News. 8.09 Reflections. 8.15 Intermezzo. 8.30 The Book Programme. 9.00 World News. 9.09 Review of the British Press. 9.15 The World Today. 9.30 Financial News. 9.40 Look Ahead. 9.45 Music Now. 10.15 Merchant Navy Programme. 10.30 What Ho, Jeeves! 11.00 World News. 11.09 News about Britain. 11.15 In the Meantime. 11.25 Ulster Newsletter. 11.30 Assignment. 12.00 Radio Newsreel. 12.15 pm Jazz for the Asking. 12.45 Sports Round-up. 1.00 World News. 1.09 Twenty-Four Hours. 1.30 An Ordinary Pebble. 2.15 Letterbox. 2.30 John Peel. 3.00 Radio Newsreel. 3.15 Outlook. 4.00 World News. 4.09 Commentary. 4.15 Theatre Call. 4.35 Letter from London. 4.45 The World Today. 5.00 World News. 5.09 The Week in Wales. 5.15 Music Now. 8.00 World News. 8.09 Twenty-four Hours. 8.15 Time Off. 8.45 Letter from London. 9.55 Waveguide. 10.00 World News. 10.09 The World Today. 10.25 The Week in Wales. 10.30 Financial News. 10.40 Reflections. 10.45 Sports Round-up. 11.00 World News. 11.09 Commentary. 11.15 From the Weeklies. 11.30 What Ho, Jeeves! 12.00 World News. 12.09 am News about Britain. 12.15 Radio Newsreel. 12.30 About Britain. 12.45 Sarah and Company. 1.15 Outlook. 1.45 Dancers of the Renaissance. 2.00 World News. 2.09 Review of the British Press. 2.15 Network U.K. 2.30 The Book Programme. 3.00 World News. 3.09 News about Britain. 3.15 The World Today. 3.30 My Word! 4.00 Newsdesk. 5.45 The World Today.

WAVELENGTHS: Radio 1 medium wave 275m/1089kHz or 285m/1053kHz. Radio 2 med wave 330m/909kHz or 433m/693kHz and 88-91 VHF. Radio 3 med wave 247m/1215kHz and 90-92.5 VHF. Radio 4 long wave 1500m/200kHz and 92-95 VHF. Greater London area only; med wave 720kHz/417m. LBC 261m, 97.3 VHF, Capital 194m, 95.8 VHF. World Service: med wave 648kHz (463m). BBC Radio London 206m, 94.9 VHF.

REGIONAL TV

Westward
As London except: 1.20 pm-1.30 News. 2.45 Film: Escape to Burma (Barbara Stanwyck, Robert Ryan). 4.12-4.15 Gus Honeybun's Birthdays. 6.00-7.00 Westward Diary. 7.30-8.30 Incredible Hulk. 10.32 News. 10.36 Soap. 11.05 SWAT. 12.00-12.05 am Faith for Life.

Channel
As London except: 12.00-12.30 pm Closedown. 1.20-1.30 News. 2.45-4.15 Film: Escape to Burma (Barbara Stanwyck). 6.00 Channel Report. 6.30 Encore. 6.55-7.00 What's on Where. 7.30-8.30 Incredible Hulk. 10.28 News. 10.36 Soap. 11.05-12.00 SWAT.

Border
As London except: 1.20 pm-1.30 News. 2.45-4.15 Film: Background (Valerie Hobson). 6.00 Lookaround. 6.30-7.00 Survival. 7.30-8.30 Charlie's Angels. 10.30 Superstitions. 11.00 Boxing. 12.00-12.03 am News.

Yorkshire
As London except: 1.20 pm-1.30 News. 2.45-4.15 Film: Watusi (George Montgomery). 6.00 Calendar. 6.30-7.00 Sport. 7.30-8.30 *Hawaii Five-O.* 10.30 Soap. 11.00 Snooker. 11.45-12.40 am Lou Grant.

ATV
As London except: 1.20 pm-1.30 News. 2.45 Oddball. 2.55-4.15 Film: Daughters of Joshua Cabe Return (Dan Dailey, Christina Hart). 6.00-7.00 ATV Today. 7.30-8.30 Charlie's Angels. 10.30 Soap. 11.00 News. 11.05-12.55 am Film: Corruption (Peter Cushing).

Scottish
As London except: 1.20 pm-1.30 News. 2.45-4.15 Film: Doberman Gang. 6.00 Scotland Today. 6.25 Sports Extra. 6.45-7.00 Rear Hero. 7.30-8.30 Thingummyjig. 10.30 Ways and Means. 11.00 Late Call. 11.05-12.30 am Film: Bliss of Mrs Blossom (Shirley MacLaine, Richard Attenborough).

Grampian
As London except: Starts 9.25 am-9.30 First Thing. 1.20 pm-1.30 News. 2.45-4.15 Film: New Daughters of Joshua Cabe (John McIntire). 6.00-7.00 North Tonight. 7.30-8.30 Charlie's Angels. 10.30 Police Surgeon. 11.00 Boxing. 12.00 Seachd Laithean. 12.15 am-12.20 News.

Southern
As London except: 1.20 pm-1.30 News. 2.00 Houseparty. 2.25-4.15 Film: King's Pirate (Doug McClure). 5.15-5.45 Mr and Mrs. 6.00 Day by Day. 6.00 Scene South East. 6.30-7.00 Out of Town. 7.30-8.30 Charlie's Angels. 10.35 Silver Needle. 11.05 Benson. 11.35 Film: Man to Kill (Vladimir Popovic). 1.35 am Weather followed by Recovery of Health.

Tyne Tees
As Thames except: Starts 9.20 am The Good Word. 9.25-9.30 North East News. 1.20 pm-1.30 North East News and Lookaround. 2.45-4.15 Film: Miss Robin Hood (Margaret Rutherford and Richard Hearne). 6.02 Sportstime. 6.30-7.00 Northern Life. 10.32 Film: Castle Keep (Burt Lancaster and Peter Falk). 12.30 am Countryside Christian. 12.35 Closedown.

HTV
As London except: 1.20 pm-1.30 News. 2.00 Houseparty. 2.25-4.15 Film: Istanbul Express (Gene Barry). 6.00 Report West. 6.30-7.00 WKRP in Cincinnati. 7.30-8.30 Chips. 10.28 News. 10.35 Report Extra. 11.05 Soap. 11.35-12.05 am Camera.
HTV CYMRU/WALES: As HTV West except: 9.35 am-9.50 Am Gymru. 12.00-12.10 pm Ffalabalam. 4.15-4.45 Dacar Gnled? 5.15-5.45 Muppet Show. 6.00-6.15 Y Dydd. 6.15-6.30 Report Wales. 10.35-11.05 Outlook.

Ulster
As London except: 1.20 pm-1.30 Lunchtime. 2.45 Film: Watusi (George Montgomery). 4.13-4.15 News. 6.00-7.00 Good Evening Ulster. 7.30-8.30 Charlie's Angels. 10.30 Witness. 10.35 Sportscast. 11.05 Benson. 11.35-11.45 Bedtime.

Granada
As London except: 1.20 pm-1.30 Granada Reports. 2.00 Live from Two. 2.45-4.15 Film: Checkpoint (Anthony Steel). 6.00 Granada Reports. 6.30-7.00 Kick Off. 10.30 Week on Friday. 11.00 After All That, This. 11.10-1.30 am Film: L-Shaped Room* (Leslie Caron).

Anglia
As London except: 1.20 pm-1.30 News 2.00 Houseparty. 2.25 Film: Bachelor of Hearts (Hardy Kruger, Sylvia Syms). 6.00-7.00 About Anglia. 7.30-8.30 Incredible Hulk. 10.30 7 Days. 11.00 Soap. 11.30 Film: Attila the Hun (Anthony Quinn, Sophia Loren). 1.00 am At the End of the Day.

Entertainments Guide

...sold seats at cut price to ...us just before performance. ...lost credit cards accepted for ...one bookings or at the box ...

*telephoning use prefix 01 only ...le London Metropolitan Area.

OPERA & BALLET

COLISEUM S 836 3161 cc 240 5258.
ENGLISH NATIONAL OPERA Tonight & Thurs 7.30: Tosca. Tomor & Tues 7.30: Madama Butterfly. Wed 7.30: Cinderella. 4 balcony seats avail from 10 am on day of perf.
COVENT GARDEN 240 1066 'S' Gardencharge cc 836 6903. 65 amphiseats avail for all perfs from 10.00 am on the day of perf.
THE ROYAL BALLET Tonight at 7.30 La Fille mal gardée. Tomor at 2.00 & 7.30. Wed & Thurs at 7.30 Giselle.
THE ROYAL OPERA Mon at 7.00 Lulu.
SADLER'S WELLS THEATRE EC1 01-837 1672 1673 3856. Credit cards 10 am to 6 pm 01-278 0871. Until Feb 21
D'OYLY CARTE presents GILBERT & SULLIVAN OPERAS 7.30. Mats Sats and Feb 18 2.30. Tonight & Tomor The Pirates of Penzance. Mon until Sat 21. mat. Ruddigore. (Sat. etc. Trust Assoc. Membs only). £2.00 to £7.50.

CONCERTS

QUEEN ELIZABETH HALL. 01-928 3191. BOYS OF THE LOUGH with Flora MacNeil (Barra) on fiddles, Feb 21, 7.45. Traditional music from Ireland, Scotland and Shetland. Tickets £2-£3.50.
ROYAL FESTIVAL HALL (01-928 3191). Tonight 8. LONDON SYMPHONY ORCH. Claudio Abbado. Margaret Price. Mahler: Songs from Des Knaben Wunderhorn: Wagner: Prelude & Liebestod (Tristan & Isolde): Brahms: Serenade No 1.

THEATRES

ADELPHI S CC 01-836 7611 Evgs at 7.30. Sats. 4.0 & 7.45 Mats. Thursday at 3.0 TONY BRITTON PETER BAYLISS and ANNA NEAGLE in MY FAIR LADY "MARVELLOUS SHOW"—Now! "SPECTACULAR"—D. Express. "STUNNING"—Time Out. Now booking through to Oct. Group Bookings Telephone 01-836 7358 or 01-379 6061
ALBERY—OMEGA SHOW GUIDE ACCIDENTAL DEATH OF AN ANARCHIST, EDUCATING RITA, TOMFOOLERY ... ET FOR ONE, PAL JOEY ... CREDIT CARD SALES 379 6565 ... 9 a.m. all major cards. No fees. GROUP bkgs. 836 3962. ... STANDBY £2.90.
ALBERY S 836 3878 cc bkgs 379 6565. Grp bkgs 379 6061. 836 3962. Eves 8. Thurs mat 3.00. Sats from £2.90. Sat 5 & 8.15. SIAN PHILLIPS "A KNOCKOUT" S. Times. S. Exp. DENIS LAWSON Most Promising New Actor DRAMA AWARD 1980 PAL JOEY "SOMETHING TO BE SEEN AT COSTS" (F.T.) RODGERS & HART'S GREATEST HIT (D. Mail). "ENTRANCINGLY SLEAZY ... SHEER THEATRICAL RAZZLE DAZZLE" Std.
ALDWYCH S 836 6404 cc 379 6233 ... 0-6. Sats 10-4). Info 836 5332 ROYAL SHAKESPEARE COMPANY. Ton't 7.30. Tomor 3.00 & 7.30 PASSION PLAY by Peter Nichols "Sheer magic" Times. "Superlative acting" S. Tel. "The ... lighter came thick and fast ... exciting start to the theatrical ...ar" S. Times. With O'Casey's award winning JUNO AND THE PAYCOCK (next perf 25 Feb) and Nikolai Erdman's THE SUICIDE (next perf 26 Feb). Pres-booking 22003. Group Sales ... 6061. RSC also at The Warehouse Piccadilly.
AMBASSADORS S cc 836 1171 Eves 8 Tue 3. Sat 5.30 & 8.30. J. B. PRIESTLEY'S Mystery Play DANGEROUS CORNER "One of the cleverest plays ever written" Daily Telegraph.
CHURCHILL cc 460 6677/5838 Bromley, Kent. 7.45 Sat 4.30 & 8 Thurs. 2.30. FAITH BROOK, JOHN ARNATT, LUCY GUTTERIDGE, TONY CAUNTER, DAVID TROUGHTON, in EDGAR WALLACE'S thriller THE CASE OF THE FRIGHTENED LADY.
COMEDY THEATRE S cc 01-930 2578. Last perfs Ton't 8.15. Tomor. 4 pm. & 8.15. RALPH RICHARDSON in the National Theatre prod. of EARLY DAYS by David Storey RALPH RICHARDSON: "TRIUMPH" Gdn. "UNFORGETTABLE" Int Hld Trib "NOT TO BE MISSED" Punch Group Sales 379 6061.
COTTESLOE N.T.'s small auditorium: Tkts normally £3.70 (day tkts from 10 am £2.20, student standby 45 mins before start £1.50) Mons-Sats 7.45 THE TICKET-OF-LEAVE MAN by Tom Taylor.
CRITERION S 930 3216 cc 379 6565. Grp Bkgs 836 3962 or 379 6061. Eves. 8. Sat. 6 & 8.45. Robin Ray, Jonathan Adams Martin Connor, Tricia George in A SATIRICAL REVUE TOMFOOLERY Words, music & lyrics of Tom Lehrer "HILARIOUS, BARBED AND BUBBLY" Sunday Times "OUTRAGEOUS" Guardian
DRURY LANE, Theatre Royal. Tel. 01-836 8108. THE BEST LITTLE WHORE HOUSE IN TEXAS Opens Feb. 26 at 7.00. Reduced price previews Feb. 21. 23. 24. 25 at 8.00.
DUKE OF YORKS S 836 5122. Credit Cards 379 6565 836 9837/839 4682 Group Bookings 836 3962, 379 6061 Evgs 8.00. Sats 5.0 & 8.30. Stalls & Circle from £2.90. FRANCES DE LA TOUR ACTRESS OF THE YEAR Swet awards 80 BEST ACTRESS New Standard Drama Awards 80 BEST PERFORMANCE BY AN ACTRESS 1980 DRAMA AWARDS and DAVID DE KEYSER BEST SUPPORTING ACTOR Drama Awards of the Year 1980 in TOM KEMPINSKI'S DUET FOR ONE BEST NEW PLAY Drama Awards 1980 "THE AMAZING NEW PLAY" Daily Telegraph "NO ONE INTERESTED IN THE THEATRE CAN AFFORD NOT TO SEE THIS PRODUCTION" F.T.
GARRICK S cc 01-836 4601 Feb. 16 7.0. Subs. evenings 8.0. Until 16 March. MAX WALL
GLOBE S cc 437 1592, 439 6770. FOR 12 WEEKS ONLY ROWAN ATKINSON IN REVUE Previews Feb. 17 & 18 at 8.00. Opens Feb. 19, 7.0. Subs 8.0. Sat Sat. 6.0 & 8.45. BOOK NOW!
GREENWICH THEATRE S cc 858 7755. Evgs. 8.0 (sharp). Mat. Sats. 2.30. DONALD SINDEN in PRESENT LAUGHTER by Noel Coward. Ends here 7th March! Open 12th March CONSTANCE CUMMINGS in THE GOLDEN AGE, new play by A. R. Gurney.
HALF MOON 27 Alie Street E1. 790 400 The Umbrella presents a recreation in English of the strange yet hilarious world of KARL VALENTIN'S KOMIKER KABARETT Feb. 15-21 8 p.m. £1.75.
HAMPSTEAD THEATRE 722 9301. Jean-Claude Grumberg's THE WORKSHOP Last 2 wks. Book now to avoid disappointment 8 p.m., Sat. 4.30 & 8 p.m.
HAYMARKET THEATRE ROYAL cc 01-930 9832. Only 10 more weeks. Mon-Sat evgs. at 8.0 MAGGIE SMITH "a great tragi-comic actress in full bloom" Financial Times in VIRGINIA "a beautifully crafted, highly emotional experience" D. Tel. A new play by Edna O'Brien from the lives and writings of Virginia and Leonard Woolf. Directed by Robin Phillips. "RADIATES PERFECTION" S. Exp. Latecomers may not be admitted.
LYRIC HAMMERSMITH cc 01-741 2311. Eves. 7.30. Thur. Mat. 2.30. Sats. 4.30 & 8.15 HOBSON'S CHOICE. Cast includes Arthur Lowe, Julia McKenzie, Ronald Pickup. "It's still a great choice . . . this thoroughly enjoyable comedy" N. Std. "beautifully observed" Sun. Tele.
LYRIC STUDIO: Last 2 Perfs: Ton't & Tomor 8.0. MARIKA'S CAFE THEATRE with Marika Rivera.
KINGS HEAD, 226 1916. Dnr 7. Show 8. DAFFODILS — The Barrow Poets.
LYTTELTON (NT's proscenium stage): Ton't 7.45, Tomor. 3.00 & 7.45. THE ELEPHANT MAN by Bernard Pomerance. Ton't 6 pm Pinter's FAMILY VOICES directed by Peter Hall with Peggy Ashcroft, Mark Dignam, Michael Kitchen. 40 min. Platform Perf. all tkts £1.20 (Feb. 18, 19, 20, 21, 25. LAST PERFS WATCH ON THE RHINE by Lillian Hellman.
LYRIC S cc 01-437 3686. evgs. 8.0 Mat Wed 3.0. Sat 5.30, 8.30. DINSDALE LANDEN NICOLA PAGETT in ALAN AYCKBOURN'S TAKING STEPS "A VERY FUNNY EVENING. ENJOYED MYSELF ENORMOUSLY" Evening News "THE BEST FARCE IN TOWN"—Punch.
NATIONAL THEATRE S cc 928 2252. FOR REPERTOIRE SEE SEPARATE ENTRIES UNDER OLIVIER/LYTTELTON/COTTESLOE. Car park. Restaurant 928 2033. Credit card bkgs. 928 5933. TOURS OF THE BUILDING daily (incl. backstage) £1.50. Info. 633 0880.
OLD VIC. 928 7616 cc 261 1821 "S" Last perfs Ton't at 7.30. Tomor at 3.00 & 7.30. THE RELAPSE by Sir John Vanbrugh. From Tues. (Red. price prev. Tues 7.30). Opens Wed. at 7.00, subs eves. 7.30. Sat. 2.00. WAITING FOR GODOT.
OLIVIER (NT's open stage): Ton't, Tomor 7.30 (low price Prevs.) A MONTH IN THE COUNTRY by Ivan Turgenev, trans. by Isaiah Berlin.
PALACE, S cc 01-437 6834 "OH WHAT A BEAUTIFUL EVENING!" Daily Mail. Rodger's & Hammerstein's OKLAHOMA! "A MAGICAL MUSICAL EXPERIENCE" S. Times. Evenings 7.30. Mats. Wed. Sat. 3.00. For group bookings 01-379 6061. Better selection of seats available Mon.-Thur.
PALLADIUM. 01-437 7373. Evgs 7.30. Mats Tues. Wed. Thur & Sat. at 2.45. JIM DAVIDSON, MOLLIE SUGDEN, WINDSOR DAVIES, MELVYN HAYES, CLIVE DUNN, LIONEL BLAIR in DICK WHITTINGTON "Bright, fast-moving, dazzling, spectacle . . . Worth every penny" D. Mirror. Book now. Box Office and all agents. Credit cards accepted. Group sales box office 379 6061.
FORTHCOMING ATTRACTION THE LIBERACE SHOW '81 Starring "MR SHOWMANSHIP" LIBERACE with supporting company OPENS APRIL 28th for 2 weeks only. BOX OFFICE NOW OPEN
PALLADIUM 01-437 7373. Opening June 11 (Special Previews from May 29). MICHAEL CRAWFORD in BARNUM THE SMASH HIT BROADWAY MUSICAL. Postal booking now open.
PICCADILLY S 437 4506 cc 379 6565. Group Bkgs 836 3962 379 6061. Mon.-Fri. 8. Mat. Wed. 3. Sat 6 & 8.40. Seats from £2.90. ROYAL SHAKESPEARE CO. in Willy Russell's new comedy EDUCATING RITA COMEDY OF THE YEAR SWET AWARD 1980 JULIE WALTERS MOST PROMISING ACTRESS DRAMA CRITICS' AWARD 1980 "SPLENDID THEATRE EVENING QUITE ASTOUNDING"—Time Out. "A MARVELLOUS PLAY, HILARIOUS, IT SENT ME OUT MOVED, EXCITED & EXHILARATED" S. Tms. RSC also at Aldwych/Warehouse.
PHOENIX c.c. 01-836 2294/5. Credit Card Bookings 01-836 8611. THAT'S SHOWBIZ! The Sensational Variety Spectacular. TWICE DAILY at 6.00 & 8.30. Prices: £2.50, £3.50, £4.50, £5.50.
PRINCE EDWARD, S cc Box Off. 437 6877. cc Hotline 439 8499. Grp. sales 379 6061. Eves 8.0 Mat. Thur. (Economy price) & Sat. 3.0. EVITA by Tim Rice & Andrew Lloyd Webber. Dir. by Harold Prince.
PRINCE OF WALES THEATRE 930 8681. Credit Card bookings 930 0846. PAUL DANIELS in IT'S MAGIC "TRIUMPH" Fin. Times. "A WINNER" Variety. "PURE MAGIC" Sun. Mirror. Mon.-Thurs. 8.0 Fri. & Sat. 6 & 8.45. Easter perfs.: Good Friday as normal. EXTRA MATS 20th & 21st APRIL AT 3.0.
QUEENS S cc 01-734 1166 01-439 3849 01-439 4031. PENELOPE KEITH Peter JEFFREY Barbara FERRIS MOVING A new play by Stanley Price Directed by Robert Chetwyn Evenings 8.0. Mat. Wed. 3.0. Sat. 5.0 & 8.15. Grp sales 379 6061 "STRAIGHT FROM THE HEART . . . A FUNNY AND MOVING STORY OF SELLING A HOUSE" Daily Mail.
RAYMOND REVUEBAR cc 734 1593. At 7, 9, 11 p.m. Open Suns. Paul Raymond presents THE FESTIVAL OF EROTICA. New Acts! New Girls! New Thrills! 23rd sensational year! Fully air conditioned.
RIVERSIDE STUDIOS: 748 3354. Tues. to Sun. 7.30. JOINT STOCK in Say Your Prayers. New musical play by Nick Darke. "Admirable story telling . . . intelligent comedy" Times.
ROUND HOUSE. 267 2564. Scarborough Theatre in the Round, in SUBURBAN STRAINS, a musical play by ALAN AYCKBOURN composed by PAUL TODD. Evgs. 8. Mats. Thurs. & Sats. 2.30. Until March 14. "A witty, ingenious musical play" Gdn. "Mr Ayckbourn at his familiar best" The Times.
ROUND HOUSE 267 2564 ROYAL EXCHANGE THEATRE COMPANY THE DUCHESS OF MALFI with HELEN MIRREN & BOB HOSKINS 1 April-9 May HAVE YOU ANYTHING TO DECLARE? 13 May-6 June THE MISANTHROPE with TOM COURTENAY 1 July-1 August Season Tkt. Available.
ROYAL COURT S cc 730 1745. TOUCHED By Stephen Lowe. Evgs. 8. Mon. all seats £2. "Beautifully written . . . performances superb" Gdn. Must end Feb. 21.
ROYAL COURT THEATRE UPSTAIRS 730 2554. FOUR IN A MILLION devised & Dir. by Les Blair. Evgs. 7.30 "Very funny, exceptionally enjoyable" S. Tms.
SAVOY THEATRE 01-836 8888. JOHN ALDERTON PAULINE COLLINS "PLAY OFF EACH OTHER BEAUTIFULLY, TOUCHING, FUNNY AND VERY MUCH ALIVE." Gdn. in Charles Dyer's comedy RATTLE OF A SIMPLE MAN "COULD HAVE BEEN SCRIPTED FOR THEM." Times. "A THEATRICAL GEM." The People. Mon-Fri 8.0, Sat 5.45 & 8.45. Reduced Group Bookings 839 3092. Credit Card bookings. Only 836 7516 (9.30 a.m.-6.00 p.m. Sats 9.30 a.m.-4.30 p.m.). Last 3 weeks.
SHAW 01-388 1394 SHORT SEASON ONLY: GOTCHA AND KILLING TIME by Barrie Keeffe Mat. Thurs 2.30. Evgs. 7.30.
ST. MARTIN'S. cc 836 1443. Evgs. 8. Tue 2.45. Sats 5 & 8. AGATHA CHRISTIE'S THE MOUSETRAP 29th YEAR
STRAND cc 01-836 2660, 01-836 4143. Evs. 8.0. Thurs. 3.0 Sats. 5.30 & 8.30. NO SEX PLEASE WE'RE BRITISH Directed by Allan Davis Group sales box office 379 6061. Mons-Sats. 8pm.
TRICYCLE THEATRE 269 Kilburn High Rd., NW6. 328 8626. Crucible Theatre's Production of BLACK BALL GAME by Don Webb. "It's brilliant" Gdn. "very funny satire" Tms.
SHAFTESBURY. cc Shaftesbury Ave., W.C.2. Tel. Box Office 01-836 6596 or 01-836 4255. Credit Card booking only 01-839 7516 01-839 4682 01-839 4855 (9.30-6.00, Sats. 9.30-4.30) Group bookings only 01-839 3092 TOM CONTI & GEMMA CRAVEN - THEY'RE PLAYING OUR SONG "This show is a real stunner. Two of the most engaging performances in London." D. Mail. Prices: Stalls & Royal Circle £8.00, £6.50, £5.00. Circle £3.50 (£1.00 seats at Box Office) (OAP's £4.00 Wed. Mats. best seats. Student Standby £4.00). Mon.-Fri. Evgs. 8.0. Mats. Wed. 3.0. Sats. 5.0 & 8.30.
VICTORIA PALACE cc 01-828 4735 6. 01-834 1317. Evgs. 7.30. Wednesday & Saturday 2.45. Group Sales 01-379 6061. ANNIE "UNBEATABLE FAMILY ENTERTAINMENT" Observer.
VAUDEVILLE S CC 01-836 9988. Twice daily 2.45 & 7.45. Tim Rice & Andrew Lloyd Webber's SMASH HIT MUSICAL JOSEPH AND THE AMAZING TECHNICOLOUR DREAMCOAT GRP SALES 379 6061. "A DREAM OF A SHOW" D Ex "SIMPLY WONDERFUL" BBC EXTRA MATS DAILY AT 2.45.
VAUDEVILLE S cc 836 9988 OPENING MARCH 17 AT 7.0 DONALD SINDEN in PRESENT LAUGHTER by NOEL COWARD "TERRIFIC" S. Times. Red price prevs from March 11
WAREHOUSE Donmar Theatre, Earlham Street, Covent Garden. Box Office 836 6808. ROYAL SHAKESPEARE COMPANY. Ton't Tomor. 7.30. THE IRISH PLAY by Ron Hutchinson. "Hilarious . . . sheer theatrical vitality" Gdn. All seats £3.50. students £2.00 in advance from Aldwych Box Office.
WESTMINSTER S CC 01-834 0283 From March 3 Matinees only. Monday-Friday 2.15. Sats 3.0 THE NAMESAKE
WINDMILL THEATRE. cc 01-437 6312. Continuous perfs nightly from 6.30 including Sundays. PAUL RAYMOND presents RIP OFF. Hotter than ever for 1981. The erotic experience of the modern era. 5th Great Year.
WYNDHAM'S. S 836 3028. cc 379 6565. Red. price. Grs 836 3962. Mon-Fri 8.00. Sat 6 & 8.40. ACCIDENTAL DEATH OF AN ANARCHIST "Exactly the shot in the arm that the West End needed" S Times. "One of the funniest shows London has seen in a very long time" Punch. "Hilarious" D Tel.
YOUNG VIC 928 6363. Ton't Sat. 7.30. PYGMALION. From Wed: RICHARD II.
TALK OF THE TOWN. 01-734 5051 Air conditioning. Credit cards. LONDON'S GREAT NIGHT OUT From 8.00. Dining & Dancing 9.30 SUPER REVUE "BUBBLY" at 11: GRACE KENNEDY DANCING TILL 1 a.m. From Feb 16: BRUCE FORSYTH

CINEMAS

ACADEMY 1. 437 2981. 5th month Joseph Losey's film of Mozart's DON GIOVANNI (A) ports. 1.00 (not Sun), 4.10, 7.40.
ACADEMY 2. 437 5129. Andrei Tarkovsky's haunting new film STALKER (A). Progs. 1.50 (not Sun.), 4.50, 8.00.
ACADEMY 3. 437 8819. Cocteau's ORPHEE (A) and Renoir's PARTIE DE CAMPAGNE (A) Progs 5.45, 8.15. Sats/Suns also 3.15.
CAMDEN PLAZA, Camden Town 485 2443 (opp Tube) ISABELLE HUPPERT in Maurice Pialat's LOULOU (X) 2.35, 4.40, 6.45, 9.00.
CLASSIC 1 CHELSEA, King's Road. 352 5096. Isabelle Huppert in Pialat's LOULOU (X) progs 2.30. 5.30, 8.30. Last perf bookable.
COLUMBIA, Shaftesbury Ave (734 5414). A John Cassavetes Film GLORIA (AA). Cont. progs. Dly 1.30 (not Sun) 3.45, 6.00, 8.20. Late Show Fri. & Sat. 11.00 pm.
CURZON, Curzon St. W.1. 499 3737 BURT LANCASTER, SUSAN SARANDON in LOUIS MALLE'S ATLANTIC CITY (AA). Film at 2.0 (not Sun), 4.05, 6.20, 8.40.
DOMINION, Tott. Court Rd. (580 9562). PROM NIGHT (X) and LOVE AT FIRST BITE (AA). Cont. Progs. Wks. 1.30, 3.20, 7.00. Sun. 4.15, 6.10.
EMPIRE, Leicester Square. 437 1234. Seats bookable for last evening perfs. Mon.-Fri. and all perfs.: Sat. and Sun. (not late night shows) at the box office (11 a.m.-7 p.m. Mon.-Sat.) or by post. No telephone bookings. THE FORMULA (AA) Sep. progs. daily 12.30, 3.00, 5.45, 8.50. Late show. Fri. & Sat. 11.15 pm.
Now RITZ, Leicester Square. WILLIE & PHIL (X) Sep. progs. daily 1.00, 3.30, 6.00, 8.30. Late show Fri. & Sat. 11.15 pm.
GATE CINEMA, Nott. Hill. 221 0220/727 5750. STARDUST MEMORIES (AA) 1.00, 2.35, 4.15, 6.00, 7.45, 9.30. LAST 7 DAYS. Starts Thursday MARTIN SCORSESE'S RAGING BULL. FROM HERE TO ETERNITY (A) & THE BIG HEAT (X), 11.15 p.m.
GATE TWO CINEMA. 837 8402/1177. Russ. Sq. Tube. WUTHERING HEIGHTS (U) 1.00, 3.00, 5.00, 7.00, 9.00. FROM HERE TO ETERNITY (A) & THE BIG HEAT (X) 11.00 pm. LIC'D BAR.
GATE THREE CINEMA. 267 1201/485 2446. Camden Twn. Tb. MIZOGUCHI'S CLASSIC THE STORY OF THE LAST CHRYSANTHEMUMS (A) 1.00, 3.30, 6.00, 8.30. LIC'D. BAR.
GATE MAYFAIR 493 2031 MAYFAIR HOTEL. Stratton St. Green Pk. Tb. WUTHERING HEIGHTS (U). 5.30, 7.20, 9.15.
LEICESTER SQUARE THEATRE (930 5252). Jack Lemmon in TRIBUTE (AA). Sep. Progs. Dly. (inc. Sun.). Drs. Open 2.10. 5.10, 8.10. Late show Sats. Drs. Open 11.15. Seats bookable w'ends. Last Eve. prog. and Late Show.
MINEMA 45 Knightsbridge 235-4225/6. Andrey Tarkovsky's "MIRROR" (U) (Russian dialogue—English subtitles). Daily: 3.00, 5.00, 7.00, 9.00. Late Night Show Fri & Sat 11.00 pm.
ODEON HAYMARKET (930 2738/2771) ALIEN (X) IS BACK! in 70mm and Stereo sound. Sep. progs. Wks. 1.45, 4.30, 8.00. Sun. 4.20, 7.45. Late Night Show Fri. & Sat. 11.15.
ODEON LEICESTER SQUARE (930 6111) Jane Fonda, Lily Tomlin, Dolly Parton NINE TO FIVE (AA). Sep. Progs. Drs. Open Wks. 1.15, 4.20, 7.50. Sun. 3.00, 7.30. Late Night Show Fri & Sat. Drs. Open 11.15.
ODEON MARBLE ARCH, W2 (723 2011/2). THE EMPIRE STRIKES BACK (U). Sep. Progs. Drs. Open Dly. 2.30, 6.45. Late Night Show Fri. ROLLER BALL (AA). Doors open 11 p.m.
ODEON ST. MARTIN'S LANE. THE NINTH CONFIGURATION (X). For info 240 0071 Box Office 836 0691. Sep. Progs. Dly. 1.25 (not Sun.), 4.45, 8.10. Late Night Show Fri. & Sat. 11.45.
PRINCE CHARLES.—Leic. Sq. 437 8181. British Premier Exclusive Presentation CALIGULA (X) Sep perfs Dly (inc Sun.) 2.15, 5.30, 8.45. Late show Fri & Sat 11.35 Seat bkble Lic'd bar.
PLAZA 1, 2, 3, 4. Off Piccadilly Circus. 437 1234. Advance booking facilities same as Empire, Leicester Square.
*1. MORE AMERICAN GRAFFITI (AA). Sep. progs. daily 1.00, 3.30, 6.00, 8.30. Late show Fri. & Sat. 11.15 pm
**2. AIRPLANE (A). Sep. progs. daily 1.00 (not Suns.), 3.00, 5.00, 7.00, 9.00. Late show Fri. & Sat. 11.15 pm.
*3. MONTY PYTHON'S LIFE OF BRIAN (AA). Sep. progs. daily 1.00 (not Suns.), 3.30, 6.00, 8.35. Late show Fri. & Sat. 11.15 pm.
*4. MY BODYGUARD (A). Sep. progs. daily 1.00 (not Suns.), 3.00, 6.00, 8.30. Late show Fri. & Sat. 11.15 pm.
*No smoking area.
*No smoking.
SCREEN ON THE HILL. 435 3366. Woody Allen, STARDUST MEMORIES (AA). 3.20, 5.15, 7.10, 9.15. Ring 435 9787 after 5 p.m. for phone bookings.

EVENTS

WEMBLEY ARENA cc 01-902 1234 HOLIDAY ON ICE WITH ROBIN COUSINS Performances Daily except Mons. £2.20 to £5.20. Children half price. Car park. Season until Feb. 22.

ART GALLERIES

AGNEW GALLERY, 43 Old Bond St., W1. 629 6176. 108th ANNUAL WATERCOLOUR EXHIBITION. Until 20 Feb. Mon-Fri 9.30-5.30: Thurs until 7.
AGNEW GALLERY, 43 Old Bond St., W.1. 629 6176. Peter Brook —Yorkshire Landscapes until 27 Feb. Thurs. until 7 p.m.
ANTHONY d'OFFAY, 9 & 23 Dering St, W1. British Art 1900-1980/Carl Andre. 629 1578.
BANKSIDE GALLERY, 48 Hopton Street, Blackfriars, SE1. Royal Society of Painters-Etchers and Engravers, Contemporary Prints until Feb. 12, daily 10-5. Sunday 2-6. Adm. 50p, half price OAPs, students.
BRITISH LIBRARY (in Brit. Museum). George Eliot until 26 April. Tudor Map Making until 31 Dec. Wkdys. 10-5. Suns. 2.30-6. Adm. free.
BROWSE & DARBY, 19 Cork St., 734 7984. Keith Grant.
FISCHER FINE ART, 30 Kings St., St. James's, S.W.1. 839 3942. HANS HARTUNG. Until 13 Feb. Mon-Fri 10-5.30. Sats 10-12.30.
HAYWARD GALLERY (Arts Council), South Bank, London SE1. EDWARD HOPPER and WILLIAM JOHNSTONE. Till March 29. Mon-Thurs. 10-8. Fri and Sat. 10-6. Adm £1.50. All day Mon. 6-8 Tues-Thurs: 75p.
LEFEVRE GALLERY: 30 Bruton St., W.1. 01-493 1572/3. *Twentieth* Century Works on View. Mon-Fri. 10-5.
LEGER GALLERY, 13 Old Bond St. THOMAS ROWLANDSON — 63 Original Watercolours. Mon-Fri. 9.30-5.30 until 27th Feb.
MARLBOROUGH, 6 Albemarle St. W1. BILL BRANDT: NUDES (1945-1980). Mon-Fri 10-5.30. Sat 10-12.30.
REDFERN GALLERY ADRIAN HEATH. New Paintings 1978-80 January 28-February 25. 20 Cork Street, London. W1. Mon-Fri. 10-5.30. Sats 10-12.30.
ROYAL ACADEMY OF ARTS PICCADILLY, W.1.
1. A New Spirit in Painting until 18th March. Adm. £2. Concessionary Rate £1.40.
2. *Honoré Daumier* 1808-1879 until 15th March. Adm. £1.50. Concessionary Rate £1.
3. Painting from nature until 15th March. Adm. £1. Concessionary Rate 50p.
All exhibitions open daily 10-6. Concessionary Rate applies — O.A.P.'s, students, groups over 10 and until 1.45 p.m. Suns.
THACKERAY GALLERY, 18 Thackeray St. Kensington Sq. W8. 937 5883. MONICA EPSTEIN—Tapestries, Watercolours and Etchings. Until Feb 27.
THE COTTAGE GALLERY, 9 Hereford Rd., W.2. 01-221 4578. Graphics, drawings, sculptures, by the American Artist Leonard Baskin. Opening 20th Feb. Tues.-Fri. 10-6. Sat. 11-5.

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BLESSED is he whose transgression is forgiven, whose sin is covered. Psalm 32: 1.

BIRTHS

BAKER.—To Charles and Julia, on 11th February—a daughter (Annabelle Caroline), a sister for Edward.

JOHNSON.—On 5 February to Peter and Catherine—a daughter (Georgina), sister to Elizabeth.

LE HARDY.—On February 11th, at High Wycombe to Jennifer (née Ford) and Charles—a daughter (Katherine Louise).

OGILVIE.—On February 9th, to Caroline (née Mackie) and Angus —a son (Rupert Lawrence Grantham).

RAMSAY.—On 1st February, to Liz (née Blackwood) and Richard —a daughter (Catherine Anna Blackwood).

ROOTS.—On February 4th, 1981, at the Royal Free, to Rosemary (née Dunning) and Gerrard—twins (Conrad Richard Iven and Harriet Tegwen Mary).

SANDERS.—On February 12th in Cambridge, to Benita (née Batchelor) and Ninian—a daughter.

STRATTON.—On February 11th, to Claire (née Sperkes) and Peter, at Queen Charlottes Hospital—a son (Edward Alexander Boughey).

BIRTHDAYS

BRYAN only twenty one to go so thirty's is not so bad after all. Get your thinking cap on for today's the day. Much love Annie.

DEATHS

BOADEN.—At home in Falmouth on 8th February 1981, John, cremated at Penmount, Truro. Sadly missed.

BURN.—On February 11th, in hospital, Peter, of Bay Cottage, East Hagbourne. Dearly loved husband of Ruth and loving father and grandfather. Funeral service at East Hagbourne Parish Church on Tuesday, February 17th at 11 a.m., to be followed by a private cremation. Family flowers only, but donations would be welcomed by Cancer Research, c/o Sir Michael Sobell House, Church Hill Hospital, Oxford.

BUXTON.—On February 6th, 1981, St John Dudley Buxton, F.R.C.S., in hospital after a long illness, husband of Winifred (Freddie) and father of Roger and Gabrielle. Cremation took place on Thursday, February 12th. (No letters please.)

CAPE.—On February 11th, suddenly, John W. T. Cape (Governor HM Borstal and Detention Centre Usk, Gwent). The dearly beloved husband of Christine and much loved by his children. Funeral Monday. Service at St Mary's church, Usk, at 11.45 a.m. prior to cremation at the Gwent crematorium, Croesyceiliog Gwent. No flowers, by request, but donations in lieu may be forwarded to the Heart and Chest Foundation, Taverstock House North, Taverstock Sq., London, WC1H 9JE.

CUMMING, Dr Angus Robert Cumming, husband of Josephine Williamson, 9 South Lauder Road, Edinburgh and dear father of David and Robert, died on 8 February, 1981, after a long illness and was cremated at Glasgow on 13 February. Donations please to "Hodgkins Disease Research Fund" care of Dr. Delamore, Manchester Royal Infirmary.

DANIEL.—On February 11th, 1981, peacefully, following a long illness, Admiral Sir Charles Saumarez, K.C.B., C.B.E., D.S.O., of the Old Manor, White House Green, Sulhampstead. Much loved husband of Betty and father of Valerie. Service at Sulhampstead Church on Tuesday, February 17th at 11:30 a.m., followed by private cremation. Family flowers only, but donations, if desired, in aid of the Royal Naval Benevolent Society, 1 Fleet Street, London, E.C.4.

DUDBRIDGE.—On Feb. 12, 1981, at 18 Weyhouse Close, Stroud, Glos., Ethel, aged 88 years, widow of Sydney Dudbridge. Private cremation, no flowers by request, donations in lieu may be sent for the Arthritis and Rheumatism Council, care of Philip Ford and Son, Funeral Directors Ltd., Dirleton House, Cains Cross Rd., Stroud.

KELLEHER.—On 12th February, at Countess Mountbatten House, Southampton, Dr Marie Denise of Buckland Newton, sister of Stephanie Herman and the late Margot Phillips. Funeral at the Friary, Hillfield, Dorchester, Dorset at 12 noon, Monday, 16th February. Donations if desired to the Society of St Francis or the United Society for the Propagation of the Gospel or the British Epilepsy Association.

KENNEDY, THOMAS.—On February 10th, peacefully in Whipps Cross Hospital, Artist, dearly loved husband of Dorian and father of Cameron. Funeral service will take place at the Parish Church, Chingford Green, on February 18th at 3 p.m.

DEATHS

LOCKETT.—On February 3rd, peacefully in London, Hilda L. de Loayza, in her 96th year, widow of Garstang Bradstock Lockett, daughter of the late Don Juan de Loayza and the late Doña Maria Revoredo de Hercelles de Loayza of Lima, Peru. Much beloved mother and mother-in-law of John Bradstock and Hilda, Princess of Bavaria de Lockett and Maria Isabel (Anita) and Anthony Garton. Dearly loved grandmother of Christopher, Miguel, Alexander and Marie Isabel Lockett von Wittelsbach, and Juan and Annabell, Charles and Lucy, Maria Alexandra and Richard Garton and great grandmother of Angela and Anthony Garton. Requiem Mass at Farm Street Church, London, W.1, at 11.15 a.m. on Tuesday, 24th February followed by private interment. Flowers: Garstin, 61 Marylebone High Street, W.1.

MATHEWSON.—On 10th February, 1981, at Unsted Park, Godalming, Arthur Law Mathewson, O.B.E., in his 96th year, for 67 years beloved husband of the late Frances Norma, much loved father and grandfather. Funeral private.

McARTHUR.—On February 9th, 1981, Major Eric Warneford McArthur, of Lindenhurst, Mottingham Lane, London, S.E.9, late of the 13th Hussars and son of the late Col. Alexander McArthur, R.E., in his 95th year. Funeral at Chelmsford Crematorium, at 3 p.m., on Tuesday, February 17th, 1981. Flowers to F. E. Farrer, 33 High Street, Billericay, Essex.

PEARSON.—On February 10th, Enid Leicester in her home on her 86th birthday, after a courageous acceptance of an illness endured with incomparable calm and fortitude. Widow of Brigadier Guy Pearson, utterly treasured and adored mother of Bunty, Pamma and Fay. Such a beloved grandmother and great grandmother. Mourned deeply by the very many who love her. Funeral at St Peter Mancroft, Norwich, at 3 p.m. on Tuesday, February 17, followed by cremation at St Faith. Donations, if desired, for Cancer Research, c/o Peter Taylor, 85 Unthank Rd, Norwich.

SANNES, DIRK JOHAN (HANS), husband of Dineke, father of Antoinette and Barbara, formerly of Guildford, Surrey, peacefully at Chilton House Nursing Home, Bucks, on 9th February, 1981, in his 80th year. Private cremation took place at Oxford, on 12th February. No letters, please.

SHIRLEY-SMITH.—On February 10th, after a short illness, peacefully in his sleep, Sir Hubert Shirley-Smith, past President of the Institution of Civil Engineers, widower of Joan, father of Ann and Jill and beloved husband of Marie. Sprays of flowers only or, if desired, donations to Inst. of Civil Engineers Benevolent Fund, Great George Street, London, S.W.1. All enquiries to F. Chappell, tel. Farnborough (Kent) 53277.

SPENCELY, IRENE.—On 10th February, 1981, at home, 1 Devon Close, Blundell Sands, Liverpool 23, widow of the late James Le Despenser Spencely and daughter of the late Sir Henry Hancock. Service and interment at St. Luke's Church, Crosby, on Monday, 16th February, at 2 p.m.

WESTON.—On February 11th, in her sleep, at Manor Farm House, Oak Hill, Bath, the home of her daughter and son-in-law, Dr. Mary Elizabeth, aged 97, widow of Rev. Colin Weston, mother of Molly and Christopher, grandmother and great-grandmother. Funeral at Ashwick Church, 2 p.m. February 16th, and afterwards at Haycombe Crematorium. Family flowers only, but donations may be made to Oxfam.

WICKMAN.—On February 4th, after a short illness, E. K. Wickman (Wick), director of the Commonwealth Fund and Harkness Fellowships, from 1956-1960.

IN MEMORIAM

CUIMHNICHIBH, MAC IAIN.—Agus na daoine eile air am mortadh aig Gleann Comhan an 13 Gibleau 1692.

HARPER, J. N. G., O.B.E.—In ever loving memory of my adored husband Jack whose tenderness will always be remembered by his wife and daughter, Caerau, who miss him so much in every way.

RICHARDS Girlie dulce ridentem Lalagen amabo. Dick.

VANDEN BOK.—"Nell" 1968. Remembering with love my darling Mother.

WILLIAMS, RONALD RALPH, Bishop of Leicester 1953-1978, who died February 13th, 1979. "Amavimus. Amamus. Amabimus".—Bim.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

EXIT MEETING. Will London members please attend Camden Town Hall, 2.15 Saturday. Paul Davie, Gordon Scott.

1981 LANGS SUPREME Times National Crossword Championship

In accordance with the conditions previously published entrants who have been notified of qualification for the Championship and who have chosen the under-mentioned venues (which comprise all venues except Birmingham) are required to attempt this eliminator puzzle and to send it with the completed form by first class mail to National Crossword Championships, 7 Stratford Place, London W1A 4YU, so that the envelope is postmarked not later than Monday, February 16.

The reductions to be effected are:- Edinburgh entries to be reduced from 139 to 100; York 141 to 100; Bristol 211 to 150; *Chester 171 to 120; and each of London A and B 521 to 250.*

All successful entrants are strongly urged to submit their attempts even if they cannot completely solve the puzzle, since it is probable that many partly correct entries will qualify, the intention being to have as many competitors at the regional finals as can be accommodated.

The solution will appear next Wednesday and entrants will be individually informed of the result of the elimination within three weeks.

Name (please print) ....

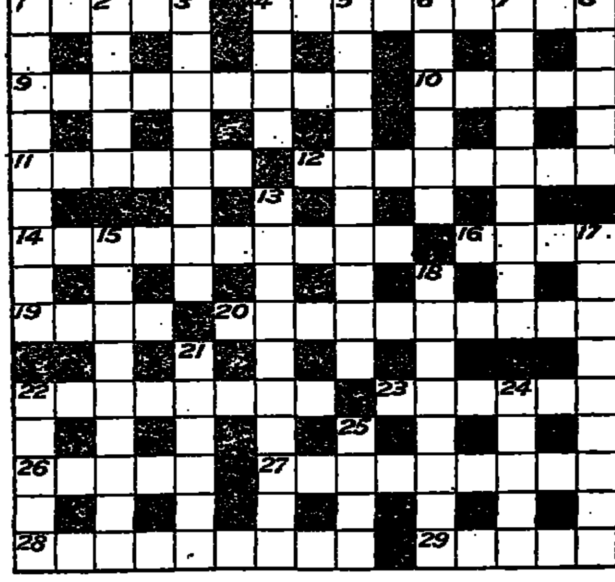
Address ....

....

....

Venue (as previously chosen) ....

The Times Crossword Puzzle No 15,449



ACROSS

1 Her mother-in-law Ruth does not name (5).
4 Such a capital name for a champion of popular government (9).
9 White as these mountain snows? (9).
10 What Hosea found in this male preserve (5).
11 Reacting to fright, fish-fashion (6).
12 Cup money collected by a Hussite (8).
14 Most irrational function of hemlock perhaps (6, 4).
16 Old soldier's weapon (4).
19 "Rosy-fingered"—such a classical epithet! (4).
20 Blefuscudian heretics (3-7).
22 Pursued (only on losing) with pertinacity (8).
23 Drums are normally so beaten (6).
26 Zulu man honoured, a genius (5).
27 Nazi boss of France once, one tree-chopper (9).
28 Sad about girl losing her head, getting the sack (9).
29 Helen's wartime outlook (5).

DOWN

1 Wine this man won't take—say, won't 'e? (9).
2 Drummond fences in a piece of riverside land (5).
3 Twelfth Night role, note, in the money business (4-4).
4 Diminutive Frenchman in place of Galilean widow (4).
5 Quizzes once showed adult
6 A club is a form of defence (6).
7 Unusually hairy task for a Hindu soldier (9).
8 A bib is connected with its modern description (5).
13 Lattices concealed the Italian convict among trees (10).
15 Food for Taurus? (4-5).
17 Challenger's discovery—a missing planet? (4, 5).
18 Peculiar language of Dostoevsky character accepting pound notes (8).
21 Prophet's servant finally described by clue 9 (6).
22 As Life-in-Death did with Death on a spectre-bark (5).
24 Very drunk, loses opening in game (5).
25 Drink we hear from the babbling brook (4).

Solution of Puzzle No 15,448

MOREL■WINDHOVER
O■O■O■A■O■O■A■I
OUTSOARED■TALON
T■O■K■T■R■U■E■S
PARMA■HALFPENCE
O■■■L■O■E■■■T■■
INKLING■SACRIST
N■N■V■■■■■L■N■E
THOREAU■SHOWERS
■■W■■■T■P■S■■■T
DELIVERER■EPSOM
O■E■E■■I■I■C■P■A
UNDER■LANDAULET
B■G■G■L■G■L■I■C

ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE LADY HAILSHAM FUND

exists to help teenagers who have been in the care of the Church of England Children's Society to make their own way in the world. This project, established by Lord Hailsham in memory of his wife, needs your help. Donations—and requests for further information—to:

MARK WYNDHAM, ROOM T, CHURCH OF ENGLAND CHILDREN'S SOCIETY, OLD TOWN HALL, KENNINGTON ROAD, LONDON, SE11 4QD.

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Ring Stella Scrivener on 01-278 9351

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VALENTINE'S DAY gifts by Special Delivery.—See Services.

IQ test/membership details from Mensa (B), FREEPOST, Wolverhampton WV2 1BR. Tel.: 0902 26055.

COLOUR counsellors, vacancies in many areas.—See Part-Time Vacs.

£100 off your new handmade Sofa. See JBD For Sales column.

RESIDE WITH THE ROYALS. Queen Anne "listed" house.—See prop.

SAID HAMED MUTAWA offers £250 to anyone who can supply information which leads to the recovery of his Egyptian passport, number 184/79 + Fathia Mohamed Abdul Karim, number 23/81.—Contact Messrs. Hawkins and Co., tel. (0462) 51411.

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EVERY MATE NEEDS A PHONE. Compuphone push button system.

WHO'S ANSWERING your phone? See Phonecall in For Sales.

RESIDENTIAL CARAVAN, Highgate. See For Sale.

THOUSANDS OF SURGICAL operations take place in hundreds of hospitals throughout the country every day. Each is carried out to the highest possible standard of skill and dedication. Few people realise that the Royal College of Surgeons of England is responsible, through examination and by constant supervision, for the high quality of surgery which we enjoy in Britain. The College also undertakes major research projects in such fields as anaesthesia, arthritis, asthma, birth defects, blindness, cancer, dental decay, organ transplantation and thrombosis. Yet it is an independent body, financed largely through gifts. Help continue its vital work. Your gift covenant or legacy will be gratefully received by the Appeal Secretary, Royal College of Surgeons of England, 35/43 Lincoln's Inn Fields, London, WC2A 3PN. (Registered Charity No. 212808).

BUSINESSMEN! Relax.—See Personal Guide in Services.

CHAMPAGNE by Teddy on Valentines day. See Services.

MURANO GLASS from Aberdeen.—See Peru'ze in "For Sale".

HAPPIER LIVES for lonely old people can be provided by your Will. Please include a bequest for the National Benevolent Fund for the Aged, 12 Liverpool Street, London EC2.

PRINTED CIRCUITS W.O. Every Monday in Bus. Services Guide.

DISILLUSIONED local government officer seeks alternative. See Situations Wanted today.

NEW AUTHOR of book of short stories will be grateful for advice based on first hand experience about literary agents, publishers, percentages, merits—or otherwise — of U.S.A. launch. Rewards: Sumptuous meal and conversation; friendship for life as an optional extra. Box 2775 F, The Times.

GEN BARD.—Must contact or shall dispose of luggage.—Elizabeth.

BOOKCASES AND BOOKS! Old and new.—See For Sale.

LOOKING for Liz Wright, artist. Would love to purchase some of her paintings.—Please ring 01-602 5811.

M. S. CAIRD announces his retirement from bachelorhood in favour of Irene Copeland, of Kent School, Hostert, BFG.

IN MEMORY OF A LOVED ONE

This Valentine's Day remember the one you love with a Valentine gift to charity. PLEASE SEND DONATIONS TO: ACTION RESEARCH FOR THE CRIPPLED CHILD, ROOM TV 1, VINCENT HOUSE, HORSHAM, WEST SUSSEX, RH12 2PN.

PERSONAL COLUMNS

ALSO ON PAGE 24

ANNOUNCEMENTS

TREASURE FOR THE DISABLED IN THIS VERY SPECIAL YEAR

We're going to have the courage to ask you to part with one of your treasures.
Perhaps a painting, book, weapon, coin, stamp, jewel or any material object you treasure most. . . .
Do you have the courage to respond to this plea? . . . If we tell you that your treasure will be auctioned at The Grosvenor House, on Monday, May 18th, at the International Antiques and Art Auction, for mentally handicapped children who have no treasure in life except through the love and compassion of their fellow men.

All gifts most warmly received at:

MENCAP

24 Eccleston Street, London, S.W.1
Jane on 01-730 9772 would be delighted to hear from you.

CARING FOR THE ELDERLY . . .

Gladys White is 83, partially paralysed, and was living in fear until Counsel & Care for the Elderly found her a place in a nursing home and paid for it. Only 80p a day, or £6 a week, is needed to help other elderly people into such security. Send us a donation, please.

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London E1 7JF
Tel: 01-247 9844

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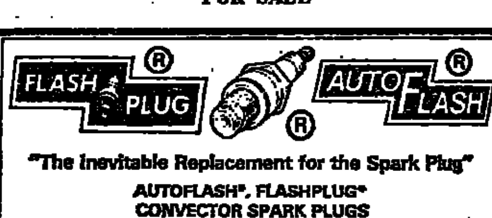
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